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Village President Irving W. Wiswall Delivering Address of Welcome at The Centennial

CENTENNIAL HISTORY

OF THE

VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA

INCLUDING THE TOWNS OF

BALLSTON AND MILTON

By EDWARD F. GROSE

INCLUDING AN UNPUBLISHED HISTORY BY THE LATE

JOHN C. BOOTH

A SOUVENIR OF THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HELD

JUNE 22-25, 1907

"METHINKS I HEAR THE SOUND OF TIME LONG PAST
STILL MURMURING O'ER ME, AND WHISPERING IN
THE FOLLOWING PAGES — LIKE THE LINGERING VOICES
OF THOSE WHO LONG WITHIN THEIR GRAVES HAVE SLEPT."

PUBLISHED BY
THE BALLSTON JOURNAL
C. H. GROSE, PROPRIETOR

1907

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By EDWARD F. GROSE

LET us gather up our notices of past ages, and preserve them in the archives of the country; we shall please and instruct ourselves by so doing, and make posterity lastingly indebted to us for the deed. To transmit the honors of one age to another is a duty; to neglect the merits of our fathers is a disgrace.

—*Phillips, in his Million of Facts.*

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Author's Preface

General Ulysses S. Grant once said "that each and every community should record in some manner its progress and its work as a landmark for the future." The force of this saying appeals strongly to one who endeavors to write the history of the long ago; to grope among dust covered and meagre records; to search out the truth of history through legend and tradition, and from the mists that gather 'round the early days bring forth to the light of the present day the men and their deeds which have made the history of a hundred years and more of village life.

At the solicitation of a number of our citizens, and little realizing the extent of the task imposed, the author began the compilation of a history of Ballston from its first settlement in 1763. Now that the work is completed, aware of its many imperfections, and craving the kind indulgence of the reader for whatever errors or omissions may be found in its pages, the history is given to the public with the hope that it will prove of more than passing interest.

Through the kindness of Miss Ella M. Booth, daughter of the late John Chester Booth, that part of his unpublished history of Saratoga County, relating to Ballston Spa and this immediate locality, is for the first time made public. The late Judge Scott, of this village, and the late Judge William Hay of Saratoga Springs, both historians of eminent ability, after reading the manuscript copy of Mr. Booth's history, commended it most highly. Its literary merit is beyond criticism. Mr. Booth's history was completed in 1858, and this should be borne in mind by the reader.

Acknowledgment is also due to Miss Winifred Taylor, of Freeport, Illinois, Mrs. Martha Seelye of New York, Mrs. Margaret Powell, Mrs. John B. Ford, Mr. Stephen B. Medbery and Mr. James F. Peckham of Ballston Spa, and Mrs. Mary Osborn and Mr. Willard Lester, of Saratoga Springs for valuable information furnished the author; to Mr. N. B. Sylvester, and Col. Wm. L. Stone for many interesting facts gathered from their historical writings, and to Mr. Enos R. Mann's "Bench and Bar of Saratoga County." Also to Mr. J. S. Wooley, Feeney Brothers and Mr. N. L. Allcott for a number of illustrations.

But more than to any other source, aside from the history of Mr. Booth, is the author indebted to files of the village papers in his possession, commencing as early as the year 1806, and continuing down to 1847 with many issues, altho' not complete, and from 1847 to the present time the complete weekly files of the Ballston Journal; and to books and documents relating to the early days from the library of the late Rev. H. L. Grose.

To all Ballstonians, from oldest to youngest, scattered throughout our great country, or inhabitants of our beautiful village, this story of "the homeland" is respectfully dedicated.

EDWARD F. GROSE.

Ballston Spa, October, 1907.

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John Chester Booth

John Chester Booth, son of Lebbeus and Lucretia Booth, was born in Ballston Spa on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1832. When about twenty years of age he established a private school in Craneville about two miles north of the village. Among his pupils were Samuel S. Wakeman, William Spencer and David Frisbie, who are now residents of Ballston Spa. These gentlemen recall with pleasure their accomplished teacher and the profitable days passed under his tuition. A little later, having chosen the legal profession as his vocation, he entered upon the study of the law in the office of Judge George G. Scott, and having served the required clerkship, was admitted to the Bar in 1855, and entered upon the practice of his profession, his office adjoining that of Judge Scott, being in one of the rooms now occupied by Messrs. Scott & Brown as law offices; on Bath street.

Mr. Booth was a man of fine intellect and rare literary attainments, which gave promise of a most successful career in his chosen profession.

A Republican in politics, he entered enthusiastically into the presidential campaign of 1856. Taking the stump for Fremont and Dayton, he very soon became known as a brilliant orator, and a speaker of unusual persuasiveness and power. The writer, at that time a boy of nine years, himself an enthusiastic young Republican, and a member of a boys' campaign club in Galway village, still recalls with something of the thrill he then experienced, the speech of Mr. Booth at a "Grand

Republican Rally" in Galway. The posters announcing this meeting were printed by the writer and his elder brother, the late H. Seward Grose, in their small printing office in that village, where they published a small monthly paper, the "Home Register."

First impressions are those that endure, and memory still pictures the scene on the village green; the great crowd pressing closely about the platform; the young speaker with impassioned eloquence swaying the assemblage at his will, and the resounding cheers that greeted him as he earnestly advocated the principles of the new party which was destined to be the saviour of the nation, under the matchless leadership of the immortal Lincoln.

From this time Mr. Booth was in great demand as an orator on all public occasions. On the "glorious Fourth" in 1855, reading the Declaration of Independence in superb style, and later in the day addressing his comrades of the "Ancient and Horrible Order of Filbusters" in a speech of keenest wit and pungent satire, delivered with grandiloquent and bombastic eloquence; at the laying of the corner-stone of the State Armory in August, 1858, delivering an oration on "America's citizen soldiers," choice in rhetoric, and eloquent in glowing periods; lecturing in Waverly Hall in January, 1860, on "The life and exploits of Joe Bettys," the noted tory spy of Ballston, to a delighted audience; or pleading before a jury in the old court house with the eloquence of a Beach or a Porter; on all occasions he displayed rare gifts of heart and mind, and the still rarer gifts of eloquent speech.

From early youth Mr. Booth had given evidence of fine literary taste, several poems of more than ordinary merit appearing under his name at the early age of sixteen years, in the Ballston Journal. Amid the activities of a busy life, he found his recreation in literary pursuits, and having great pride in his native county, he compiled a history of Saratoga county, which was completed about two years prior to his death. This history has never been published, but through the kindness of his daughter, Miss Ella M. Booth, that portion of the history relating to Ballston Spa, is included in this Centennial History.

Mr. Booth spent most of his life in this, his native village, keenly alive to its prosperity and growth. Extreme illness in his boyhood weakened his constitution, and he died in Ballston Spa on July 25th, 1860, at the early age of twenty-eight, leaving unfinished much that would have given him literary renown.

Lebbeus Booth, the father of the subject of this sketch, was the founder of the Ballston Spa Female Seminary, in its day one of the most celebrated institutions of learning in the State. He was a man of marked ability, and after the closing of his school became largely interested in manufacturing and other business pursuits in the village. He was a member and vestryman of Christ Church; loan commissioner of the county in 1840; county superintendent of the poor in 1844-5-6; director and vice-president of the Ballston Spa Bank from its organization in 1838 until his death; president of the Saratoga County Bible Society in 1850; and a village trustee in 1839. He died in 1859 aged 70 years.

His sons inherited the intellectual characteristics of their father in an unusual degree. Moss Kent Booth, elder brother of John Chester, graduated at Union College at the age of nineteen, with the first honors of his class; was admitted to the Bar at twenty-two, and began the practice of the law in Boston. In 1852 he was a member of the Massachusetts legislature. He died October 18, 1853.

Of the family of Lebbeus Booth three daughters still survive: Mrs. Martha Seelye of New York City, Mrs. Lucretia Dean of Annandale, N. Y., and Mrs. Susan E. Robinson of Riverdale-on-Hudson, N. Y.

BALLSTON LAKE, THE BEAUTIFUL SHENANTAHA, OR DEER WATER, OF THE MOHAWKS

Controlled by the Schenectady Railway Company, and the trim launch, Comanche, seen in the distance, illustrates one of the many conveniences and refined recreations provided for visitors. Forest Park is at the head of the lake.

Town of Ballston

By JOHN C. BOOTH

THE "District of Ballstown" first embraced the present towns of Ballston, Milton, Charlton, Galway, Providence, Edinburgh, and part of Greenfield. It was christened after the Rev. Eliphalet Ball,[1] who, with a colony of his old parishioners from Bedford, in Westchester County, settled near the outlet of Long Lake in the year 1770. It was first called Ball-Town, then Balls-Town, and finally Ballston.

THE INDIAN PARADISE.

The territory of Saratoga County was claimed as a hunting ground by the Mohawks, and through them by the confederated tribes of the Six Nations. Its occupancy, however, particularly that portion watered by the Kayaderosseras, in the valley of which are located the celebrated medicinal springs, seems to have been common to the whole Indian population of New York and Canada. The efficacy of these mineral waters was widely spread among the aboriginal inhabitants of the continent, and the traditions of their medicine men show that they had been resorted to for the cure of disease by the untutored natives, long before the discovery of the continent by the whites. Recognizing them as the especial gift of the Great Spirit, the Indians, with a spirit of piety and charity worthy of imitation by more civilized nations, seem by common consent to have respected the country around the springs as neutral ground. To this sanctuary of health all the tribes had unmolested access, and the horrors of savage warfare seldom, if ever, disturbed its repose; until, incited by the rival rapacities of the French and English, their pious reverence for the faith of their ancestors became corrupted, and the sacred precincts of these life-giving fountains were profaned by the barbarities of war. Although by immemorial custom exempt from hostilities, this region, from the quantities of game with which it was stocked, and its unequalled fisheries, was a favorite resort of the tribes of the Six Nations, who claimed sovereignty over it, and also by the Adirondacks, their hereditary enemies of the north, who disputed their title. The hunting grounds of the Kayaderosseras were always spoken of as an Indian Paradise.

THE McDONALD'S.

The first settlement within the present limits of the town of Ballston was made on the western shore of Long Lake[2] by two brothers, Michael and Nicholas McDonald, natives of Ireland. They were forced emigrants to this country. Enticed on board of a vessel lying in the Liffey, they were brought to Philadelphia, and as was the custom in the olden time, sold for a term of years to defray the expense of a voyage which they were compelled to make against their will.

After this it would seem that they became connected with the settlement at Johnstown, for the traditions of the family indicate that they came from thence into this county. The circumstances under which they changed their residence from the immediate neighborhood and protection of Sir William Johnson are quite satisfactorily explained further on in this narrative.

As early as the year 1763 the McDonald's came down the Mohawk to the mouth of Ael-Plaas creek, when, following the ancient Indian route up that stream to the point nearest the Lake, where an Indian portage trail had long existed, they transported their

[1]The name "Ball-Town" is said to have been given to the District at an old-fashioned "raising" of a log cabin; that Parson Ball offered the McDonald's a gallon of rum to surrender their right as pioneers to name the place; that the offer was accepted, hence the name "Ballston."

[2]Long Lake or Ballston Lake.

canoes and chattels to the silent shores of its then silent and forest-rimmed waters. They "squatted," to use the expressive nomenclature of modern emigration, on the "Lake Farm," now (1859) owned by Edward C. Delevan, and among the old residents of the township, the site of this first "clearing" is still known as "the McDonald place." The rude cabin they built stood for many years, even to within the recollection of most of the present residents of the neighborhood, a quaint and eloquent memorial of the trials and deprivations incident to our pioneer history.

The McDonalds' Cabin.

The location they selected lay directly on the line of communication between the Six Nations and the Adirondack and Lower Canadian Indians. Although unknown to the early settlers, it was an ancient Indian trail along which Mohawk and Adirondack war parties had marched to bloody battle, or retreated bearing bloody trophies and mourning captives.

After the commencement of hostilities in 1754, known as the second French war, this route again assumed an importance and value as a means of communication with the unprotected settlements at Saratoga (Schuylerville) and along the Upper Hudson. By its means Sir William Johnson, by a shorter and more expeditious route than that by way of Albany, led his faithful Mohawks, and other Indian auxiliaries from the west, in the famous expedition against Crown Point in 1755.

The country along the route thus becoming known, and the necessity of keeping open by settlement such a valuable line of communication with the north, induced the McDonalds, under the advice of Sir William Johnson to establish themselves at this point.

From the time of their settlement until 1770, they seem to have been left "monarchs of all they surveyed." Their nearest neighbors were the Dutch burghers of Schenectady, and a few hardy pioneers, scattered at long intervals along the rich bottom lands of the Mohawk. Around and to the north of them stretched an unbroken wilderness, into

which these poor but brave Irish boys had boldly plunged; sturdily confronting the innumerable dangers and trials of that savage frontier life, and heroically leading the van in felling the forest and subduing the land to the uses and support of civilized life. But if the life in their new home was one of continued danger and deprivation, nature presented much that was calculated to offset its trials and recompense its losses. Lake and stream were stocked with the choicest varieties of fish, and the woods were alive with game. The beaver was trapped along the stream which traffic has since subdued to its service; and the muskrat burrowed in the marshes where now fertile farms reward the thrifty husbandman with bounteous harvests. As they trapped the beaver, or chased the deer, or pulled the mottled pickerel and golden perch from the limpid lake, no doubt honest Nick and Mike were devoutly conscious that their lines had fallen literally "in very pleasant places."

And when the autumn glories had fallen upon the forest, the Mohawks and the Oneidas would take to the old trail up the Ael-Plaas and over into the lake, on their way to the hunting grounds around the springs in the valley of the Kayaderosseras. What with "strong water," gay cottons and glittering baubles, it is said that considerable wealth, for those days, in the form of rich peltries, fell to the lot of the McDonalds, when their red brethren returned at the close of the Indian Summer from their annual hunting in these parts.

In 1764-5, under the directions of the owners of the land, they opened a rude cart-road from their "clearing" to Schenectady. This road ran through a part of the country which the Indians had been accustomed to burn over periodically for the purpose of forming a deer pasture. The McDonalds were wont to refer to it as *"the burnt hills,"* and the locality has retained the title down to this time. In the midst of this same region a beautiful rural village now stands, surrounded by highly cultivated farms, and in no part of the country do thrift and plenty and the beauty of well-tilled lands exhibit themselves in happier effect than in and around the village of Burnt Hills.

In 1768 the proceedings for the partition of the Kayaderosseras Patent broke the monotony of the wilderness life of the McDonalds, and the survey and distribution of that large grant opened the country for settlement. The "McDonald clearing" on Long Lake was for a long time the headquarters of the field parties engaged in laying out the patent.[3]

During this survey the house of the McDonalds was the home of the Commission, and among the items in the account rendered by the Commissioners is one for board at the settlement on Long Lake. A trifle of some

Antlers of Deer shot by Michael McDonald, the first settler of Ballston, now in possession of Mr. Herbert V. Calkins, Ballston.

twenty odd pounds is also inserted as due Michael McDonald for liquors furnished the Commission during its arduous duties in the field, and entered in a bold free hand which shows that it was honest liquor drank with an honest purpose. A modern committee would probably have ordered the item concealed under the less suspicious cognomen of "sundries," or have smuggled it through the gauntlet of public opinion as "stationery." Not so did our fathers. There was high debate between the Crown and the grantees in regard to the extent of the Pat-

[3]Michael McDonald lived to the hale old age of 94, remaining on the farm until his death on January 29, 1823. His grave is beside that of his brother Nicholas on the farm, and on his tombstone is this record: "He was the first settler of Ballston."

ent. Intricate lines were to be disentangled, and nice points of description to be settled. The Commissioners were wise men in their generation, and in accordance with the measure of their wisdom invoked the spirit of the Puritans in many a bowl of punch brewed from the best of New England rum. Thus were the "crooked paths made straight" through the Kayaderosseras wilderness, and like honest men they called things by their right names, and duly ordered their clerk, Cornelius Cuyler, to credit Mike with the liquor on their books.

ELIPHALET BALL.

As soon as the Commissioners had completed their partition, the Rev. Eliphalet Ball, a Congregational clergyman of Bedford, in Westchester county, secured from the proprietors a gift of five hundred acres of land as an inducement to settle a colony of his parishioners within the grant. The congregation of Mr. Ball was composed of inhabitants of Bedford and the adjoining town of Stamford, in Connecticut. Charles Webb, a surveyor engaged in partitioning the patent, and who selected the lands around Long Lake as the most valuable, was a resident of Stamford, and a member of Mr. Ball's church. Guided by Mr. Webb's advice, Mr. Ball located his land near the outlet of the lake.[4] It was afterwards owned by the Hon. Samuel Young.

Mr. Ball came here in 1770, and at the time was accompanied by only one family of his congregation, Epenetus White, Sen., of Stamford, who located on the east shore of the lake, on what is now known as the "Collamer Place." These were soon followed by others, and in 1772 the settlement contained twenty families.

Eliphalet Ball was a man well fitted to lay the foundation of a new community. He possessed in an eminent degree the virtues requisite for the undertaking. Related to the mother of General Washington, his father and that illustrious woman being first cousins, he is said to have exhibited the same sterling virtues that rendered her the exemplar of her sex. As a man he was enterprising and energetic, cool and courageous; a scholar of extensive acquirements, and a Christian of exalted piety. From one who remembers him, and who moved into his neighborhood a few years after his settlement, we learn that "he was a careful observer, a keen discerner of men and things, and a wise counsellor; in short, a father and friend to all his people." He brought with him his three sons, Stephen, John and Flamen, and a daughter Mary, afterward the wife of Gen. James Gordon.

Of his sons, John Ball, known as Col. Ball, occupied for a long time a prominent position in the county. He held a commission in Col. Wynkoop's regiment during the Revolution, and while Lieutenant was engaged in the expedition sent to the relief of Fort Stanwix. He was the first supervisor elected in the town of Milton, and represented the county in the Assembly of 1793. Those who remember him speak of him as one of the most finished gentlemen of the country. A scholar without pedantry; polite and affable, he was every way calculated to secure the love and esteem of all who approached him. His peculiar and eminent talent for conversation is still spoken of by the few aged survivors of his generation, and the impressions left behind him by the exercise of this faculty, in connection with his amiable character, still keep his memory green in the hearts of the venerable men who yet linger on the scene he once adorned. He died in Schuylerville in 1838.

Stephen Ball was a soldier of the Revolution, serving in Col. Wynkoop's regiment. He was one of the five coroners of the county in 1796 and 1797. Mr. Sylvester in his history of Saratoga county, relates the following incident: "It is said of Stephen Ball, that he once assisted his father at a marriage service in a peculiar way. Having inquired of the bridegroom whether he had ever seen anyone married, and finding that he had not, Stephen told him just what to do, and said he, 'Father will expect you to kiss the bride several times during the ceremony, but he won't like to tell you; I will sit near you and touch your heel at the right time.' The service just commenced, Stephen touched the heel and a hearty smack followed. The minister frowned, but said nothing; but when

[4]Mr. Ball built his log-cabin home a little south of the house long known as the home of Col. Samuel Young. Christopher Appel now resides there.

the same thing occurred two or three times, Mr. Ball threatened to leave them half-married if that nonsense didn't stop. The poor bridegroom replied, 'Stephen told me to.'"

Flamen Ball graduated with distinction at Yale College in 1787, adopted the profession of the law, and became one of the prominent lawyers in New York city.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Beriah Palmer, who had assisted in the survey of the Patent, settled on the farm now owned by the Rev. Edward Davis, in 1771; Edward A. Watrous, afterward a representative in the Assembly from 1800 to 1802; William and Reuben Armstrong, uncles of the Rev. Lebbeus Armstrong; Capt. Tyrannis Collins, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Eliphalet Kellogg, Joseph Morehouse, Stephen and Enoch Wood, Nathan Raymond, Thomas and Peter Smith, Isaac How, Thomas Barnum, Elisha Benedict, John Higby, Zaccheus Scribner, Edmund Jennings,[5] Samuel Nash, Capt. Stephen White, Uri and Ephraim Tracy, Sunderland Sears, Joseph Bettys, and his son "Joe Bettys," the notorious tory marauder and spy, and Dr. Elisha Miller, a practicing physician, mostly from Connecticut, and the neighborhood of Mr. Ball's former residence, followed his fortunes into the wilderness and settled around him. These emigrants located along the road known as the "middle line," and some on the east side of the Lake.

Shortly after Mr. Ball came three brothers, Samuel, James and William McCrea, sons of a Presbyterian clergyman, of Lamington, in the colony of New Jersey, and brothers of the beautiful but hapless Jeannie McCrea. Samuel located on the "Ten Eyck farm,[6] opposite Anson Buel's residence; James on the Baldwin place, where Daniel Hartnett now resides, [7] and William on the farm now owned by Henry Davis.[8] With these came Capt. Kenneth Gordon, also of New Jersey. About this time there was also a large emigration of "well-to-do" families from the north of Ireland and Scotland, who turned their steps thitherward, probably under the advice of their countryman, General James Gordon, who had located near Mr. Ball. He resided on the farm now owned by Solyman Coon, and still known as the "Gordon place."[9]

Among the Scotch immigrants were Robert Speir and his two sons Archibald and James, and the Shearer, McDearmid and Frazer families. Some of these Scotchmen settled in what is still known as the "Scotch Bush," the neighborhood lying west of Burnt Hills; others along the road from West Milton to Schenectady, which still retains the name of "Paisley Street," which they gave it in honor of their native town. George Scott, a brother-in-law of Gen. Gordon, and grandfather of the Hon. George G. Scott, of Ballston Spa, together with Francis Hunter, John McIllmoil and three brothers Kennedy, from the north of Ireland, located along or in the vicinity of the "middle line," near its intersection with the present south line of Milton. Andrew Mitchell,[10] a Scotchman, settled at this time on a part of the farm now composing the beautiful homestead of Edward C. Delevan; and his next neighbor north was Hezekiah Middlebrook, who had built on the site of Feeney's farm house. Mitchell was a Major in the militia during the Revolution, a prominent and active Whig, and on the organization of the county was chosen one of the four first Assemblymen. Captain Titus Watson, who served in the War of the Revolution, settled on the east side of the Lake about 1773. One of his daughters married Ezekiel Horton, and was the mother of James W. Horton.

THE FREEHOLD SETTLEMENT.

The present town of Charlton was originally a part of Balls-Town. The first settler was Joseph Gonzalez, who made his "clearing" in the west part of the town in 1773, on the farm since known as the "Consalus

[5]Father of Joseph Jennings, who was sheriff in 1835, and for many years proprietor of the Milton House in Ballston Spa.

[6]His house was on the west side of the road, at the foot of the hill, just north of his brother James.

[7]The farm of the late Henry Harrison.

[8]The site now occupied by the Davis sisters, overlooking Ballston Lake.

[9]Now owned by Mr. Fred West.

[10]Mitchell was Major of Col. Van Schoonhoven's regiment during the Revolution. James Gordon was Lieut.-Colonel of this regiment, and the Ball-Town settlement was represented in the ranks by Flamen Ball, John Ball, Stephen Ball, Uriah Benedict, John Kennedy, Thomas Kennedy, Michael McDonald, Samuel McCrea, Stephen Merrick, Joseph Morehouse, Beriah Palmer, Jabez Patchin, Thaddeus Scribner, Sunderland Sears, John Taylor, Edward A. Watrous and Epenetus White.

place." This section of the country was then known as "Woestyne," signifying "the wilderness." In 1775 William and Alexander Gilchrist, Scotch emigrants, with a number of their countrymen, either direct from Scotland or latterly from the Jerseys, settled along the road on which the United Presbyterian church now stands, a little eastward from Gonzalez.

In the month of May, 1774, Thomas Sweetman, who the year previous had purchased land in the "five thousand acre tract," arrived with his family at Schenectady, from Freehold, in the colony of New Jersey. He "blazed" out the road from Schenectady to the present town of Charlton, and located his household gods on the land which he had purchased, which was situated in the east part of the town, and has ever since been known as the "Sweetman place." During the summer of this year a number of the inhabitants of the Jerseys from Freehold and its neighborhood purchased land adjoining Sweetman, and commenced clearing it, and built them cabins. At the approach of winter they returned to the south, and the next spring brought on their families, and other of their old neighbors. Among them were David Maxwell, John McKnight, Joseph La Rue, Thomas and Joseph Brown, John Taylor, for a long time one of the Judges of the County Court, and father of Hon. John W. Taylor of Ballston Spa, Gideon Hawley and James Low, father of Thomas Low, a sheriff of the county. Jesse Conde, of Schenectady also settled here at this time, and Eli Northrup, John Holmes and Obediah Wood.

THE "MOURNING KILL," EAST ON MALTA AVENUE

To distinguish the settlement from the community on Long Lake, it was called Freehold, which name it bore until its organization as a town, when it was named Charlton.

This composed the bulk of the settlement. Its appearance when compared with that of the present time would present a strong and wonderful contrast. The country now chequered with beautiful and fruitful farms, studded with neat and comfortable dwellings, surrounded with all the appliances of thrifty husbandry, was then covered with a dense forest, save where some of these hardy pioneers had made "clearings" and erected their

log cabins, and among the yet smouldering brush-heaps and charred stumps had planted their first seed, looking forward at best to a precarious growth and scanty harvest. From one cabin to another rough roads were opened through the heavy timber, or simply "blazed" out for the neighborhood convenience.

Their life was one of severe labor and trial, and full of danger. Few possessed sufficient of this world's goods to secure any luxuries, and even those of comparative wealth found their life in the wilderness a complete barrier against indulgence in any style of living different from their poorer and laborious neighbors. Schenectady was the nearest point from which to obtain supplies. There were no framed houses in the settlement until after 1774.

GENERAL JAMES GORDON.

About the commencement of the Revolution Gen. Gordon erected a flouring mill on the Mourning Kill, near his residence, and a saw-mill nearly opposite, on the same stream. He was a man of great business energy and capacity, and being possessed of wealth and large experience, he applied himself to the development of the resources of the new settlement. His keen discernment saw the present and future value of the water-power of its streams, and he at once purchased and improved all he could secure. Mills seem to have been his hobby. Besides the one above mentioned, he erected a saw-mill on the stream known as "Gordon creek," where it crosses the "middle line;" a grist mill on the Kayaderosseras, near Ingalls' paper mill; [11] and another above it on the same stream where the present mill stands at Milton Centre.

General Gordon was the leading man in the new community, and his wealth and long experience of frontier life, as an Indian Trader, made him the guide and adviser of the settlers. He retained his social influence to the last, dying in 1810, after serving in most of the political offices in the gift of a grateful people, and being honored by commissions of high trust by the authorities of the State. The first death commemorated in Ballston by a grave-stone was that of his mother, "Martha, relict of Alexander Gordon," who died in 1775.

[11] Ingalls' paper mill was at Factory village.

THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE.

A community composed of the descendants of the Puritans and emigrants from the land of Knox, and founded by a zealous clergyman of their faith, could not long remain without a tabernacle, however rude, in which to praise the God of their fathers. A condition of Mr. Ball's grant expressly provided for the ministrations of religion; the speculators in these lands, wiser than the children of light, well knowing that after good

Grave of Eliphalet Ball

land and valuable timber, "stated preaching" was the strongest temptation to offer New England emigration.

In 1772 a log building was erected on the corner of the square near where the District school house now stands, east of the present Presbyterian church at Ballston Centre.[12] In this the Rev. Mr. Ball preached to the assembled settlement on the Sabbath. This building was soon succeeded by another and larger framed one, afterwards known as the "Old Red Meeting House," which was finally turned into an Academy when the present church site was selected. From an aged minister of the Gospel, who remembers the old

[12] This log meeting-house stood on the southwest corner of the square at Academy Hill. The "Ballston Fort" of the Revolution, was a high stockade built around this meeting-house.

church, we learn that it was the earliest edifice consecrated to public worship erected in the county. Eliphalet Ball died in Ballston in 1797.[13]

WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

When the War of Independence began, though few in numbers and far removed from the centres of population, the pioneers of Balls-town were neither indifferent nor uninterested in the contest, or its result. Their exposed northern frontier residence; their proximity to the Indians, who yet thirsted to avenge the wrongs they had suffered by the Kayaderosseras Grant, by which they had been despoiled of their ancient hunting grounds; the powerful interest and known hatred to the Patriot cause of the Johnson family, their next neighbors on the west; the extensive and secret machinations of the tories in their own midst, prompted by emissaries from Johnstown and Canada; their remote and unprotected situation, exposing them to the fury of the first assaults from the north, all conspired to make them keenly alive to the dangers, and anxious for the result of the great struggle for Independence.

But the times found men in all respects equal to the emergency and peril. Measures were instantly taken for the security of the settlements. A "Committee of Public Safety" was organized, composed of the prominent men of the "Ball-Town District," and among its members were James Gordon, Beriah Palmer, Hezekiah Middlebrook and Andrew Mitchell. The Militia were organized and Gordon was commissioned Colonel, with Mitchell as Major. Many enlisted in the line, among whom were Stephen White, who received the rank of Captain, and John Ball as Lieutenant. A large part of Capt. Samuel Van Vechten's company in Col. Wynkoop's regiment, was recruited from this locality, and Captain White enlisted many for his company in Col. Willett's regiment. Among the most active in encouraging and advising in these measures of patriotic resistance was the founder and faithful pastor of the settlement, Eliphalet Ball, who in these perilous times proved himself a worthy leader of the Church militant. During this noble fervor for Independence we find the name of Joe Bettys, that synonym for all that is infamous, as a Sergeant under Col. Wynkoop.

These events occurred in 1775-6, and the Committee soon found that many in the settlement were secretly plotting in favor of the Crown and holding communication with Canada. For the protection of the settlement during the alarm occasioned by the threatened invasion from the north, under

Court House Hill. The Court House site was near the house at the right.

the advice of Gen. Schuyler, a fort was built on the corner where Mr. Ball's church stood. In fact that building formed part of the fortification, being surrounded by a palisade of oak logs, surmounted with pickets, and pierced with loop-holes for musketry. A further defence, consisting of an earthen breastwork, was erected on what is known as "Court House Hill." By these active and threatening measures most of the district was kept in comparative quiet, and the plottings and designs of the loyalists defeated.

TORIES OF THE REVOLUTION.

In the spring of 1777 an extensive conspiracy of the tories was discovered, involving a large number of the inhabitants of Balls-Town, and extending into the adjacent districts and counties. Its head was one Huet-

[13]Mr. Ball is buried in the "Briggs burying ground." The stone at the head of the grave bears this inscription: "Sic transit, gloria mundi. Sacred to the memory of Rev. Eliphalet Ball who died April 6, 1797, aged 75 years.

Depart my friends; dry up your tears,
I must lie here 'till Christ appears."

Mr. Ball is still called by many of the old residents "Priest" Ball, the familiar name applied to him in earliest days.

son, who had the boldness to openly call for royal volunteers from the disaffected communities, and had even seduced numbers of the patriot soldiery into his plans before discovery. Happily the vigilance of the Balls-Town Committee scented the treasonable plot before its execution, and by their timely activity saved the township from the terrors of a tory rising. The conspirators were captured and tried, and after the execution of their sentences of fine and imprisonment, succeeded in fleeing to Canada and took service in the royal forces. During the remainder of the war they were maliciously active in forays upon Balls-Town and the northern settlements, rendering themselves infamous by their acts of malignant revenge against their old neighborhoods. They were the chosen tools of Joe Bettys in all his desperate incursions. The names of the Balls-Town tories were William Frazer, Thomas Frazer, Thomas Verte, Joseph Shearer, Alexander McLoughlin, John Mickle, John Fairman, Archibald McNeil, John Summerville, James Grant, John Burns, Michael Conner and John McLaughlin.

The close of the war was the signal for a large immigration into the county from New England. The long contest had impoverished the land, and families who had, in the good old colonial times enjoyed a competence and comparative wealth, now found themselves reduced to poverty as the price of their political independence. Emigration from their old homes, which want compelled them to sacrifice, to the new and cheaper lands of this then "far west," became a necessity. Large numbers of veterans who had fought the good fight on the battlefields of the Revolution, and borne the banner of Independence to its glorious triumph through that unequaled contest, through privation and want; through slaughter and blood; left at the termination of the war with but a miserable pittance, in the form of the depreciated Continental currency, on which to return to the arts of peace, turned their weary footsteps to the virgin forests of the Kayaderosseras country, to carve therefrom new homes for themselves and their impoverished families.

Mr. Booth's history of the town Ballston ends here.

AFTER THE WAR.

The two years immediately succeeding the peace witnessed a large influx of population into the Ball-Town district. The original settlements received new life and vigor, and new and more remote ones were established. Among those who located themselves near Mr. Ball were the Curtis family, Nathaniel Booth, Samuel Titus, David Odell and Stephen Seelye, mostly from Connecticut.

A little later, Miles Beach, father of the famous lawyer, William A. Beach, came to the Ball-Town settlement, and about the same time came Seth C. Baldwin, who afterwards became Supervisor of the town, a Member of Assembly, Sheriff and County Clerk. Among others of this period was Jonathan Peckham, who made the first "clearing" within the present limits of Ballston Spa, on which he built a log cabin as early as 1783. Ezekiel Horton came from Hebron, Connecticut, in 1800, and settled in the western part of the town. Some years afterwards he removed to Academy Hill, and kept the old tavern which was occupied as a hotel until it was destroyed by fire a few years ago. His son, James W. Horton, for nearly forty years clerk of Saratoga county, was born there, and received his early education at the Academy near by. Others who were prominent in the early days of the last century were Caleb Benedict, Gideon Luther, Thaddeus Patchin, Amos Larkin, Uriah Benedict, Samuel Young,[14] and Thaddeus Scribner, who was in the War of the Revolution, and saw Burgoyne lay down his arms. He was also, from 1800 to 1832, the "post-rider," or "old mail carrier, known far and wide by the blast on his horn." Scribner became a resident of the village, and the "Scribner house," on the west side of Gordon creek, and not far from "the spring," was long one of the old landmarks.

In 1790 James Mann came from Hebron, Conn., and purchased one hundred acres one mile southwest of the Spring. The winter following he returned to Hebron and married Miss Tryphena Tarbox. His daughter, Miss Electa Mann, who lived on this farm all her life, some years ago described their bridal trip as follows:

"They made their journey in a large sleigh, cov-

[14] See biographical sketch.

ered with domestic linen. The conveyance was heavily laden with household furniture, and was drawn by an old-fashioned Yankee team,—a yoke of oxen, with a horse ahead. They were several days on the road, but the trip was not entirely lonely. One evening, meeting with a party of fellow-travelers, their resources were thrown together for enjoyment. A union supper and a dance followed,—not keeping as late hours, however, as parties of later times.

"They came over the Middle Line road, leaving it about a mile from their new home. The pine woods were soon reached, through which the road wound, leading down the hill, over a log causeway, and to a rise of ground where the log house stood. That evening they took supper with the Knapp family,—

THE MANN HOMESTEAD, ERECTED 1805.

of whom they purchased the place,—delicious corn-cake, fried pork and tea. The snow was two feet on the ground, and the March winds made wild music among the thick branches of the forest."

In 1805 Mr. Mann built a large frame house, and this is one of the few remaining houses of early days, and has always been in possession of the Manns. It is now occupied by James R. Mann, a great-grandson of James Mann. In the kitchen of this house to-day, just to the left of the outer door, hangs the black felt hat, and underneath it two canes of James Mann, the elder. It was here that he hung them when the house was built, and for more than a hundred years, and ever since he placed them there for the last time, this has been their abiding place.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BALLSTON.

This pioneer church of the town was founded by Rev. Eliphalet Ball. Mr. Ball was a minister of the Congregational faith, and the church was independent and Congregational in its form of government until after he retired from the pastorate in 1783.

The first meeting for organization, of which any record can be found, was held September 22, 1775, when a brief covenant upon the basis of the Westminster Confession of Faith was adopted and signed by the following persons, constituting the first roll of members: Zaccheus Scribner, Michael Dunning, Stephen White, Hezekiah Middlebrook, John Nash, Samuel Nash, Azor Nash, John Holmes, Eliakim Nash, David Clark, Thomas Brown, Ebenezer Sprague, Solomon Couch, Hezekiah Wood, Jonas White, Mary White, Martha Gordon, Elizabeth Ball, Jane Scott, Rhoda Nash, Sarah Nash, Jerusha Benedict, Mary Weed, Abigail Collins, Sarah Kellogg.

Mr. Ball however instituted regular preaching services in 1771, and in 1772 built the first meeting-house—a small log building—which gave place in 1780 to a frame building long known as the "old red meeting house," and in later years as the "Ballston Academy." It was located at Academy Hill, and was abandoned in 1803 when a new and larger meeting-house was erected where the present church stands, which was built during the pastorate of Rev. Charles H. Taylor, from 1854 to 1861.

The records of the church in the earliest

years are very brief, and the names of the first officers are not mentioned. In 1776 John Young and wife, John Cabell and wife, William Belding, Eliphalet Kellogg, Solomon Couch, Uriah Benedict, Grickson Frisby, Nathaniel Weed and Samuel Benedict united with the church on profession of faith.

In 1780 the unique record is given that "nineteen husbands and the wives of all of them united at once"—John Cabell, James McCrea, Joseph Morehouse, Samuel Wood, Epenetus White, Matthew Fairchild, James Gordon, John Young, William Barnes, Robert Speir, Samuel McCrea, Jabez Gorham, Nathan Raymond, John Wood, Beriah Palmer, Sunderland Sears, Michael Middlebrook, William Bettys and James Gordon, Jr.

Rev. Ebenezer Martin succeeded Mr. Ball as pastor September 25, 1783, and October 3 a new covenant was adopted. May 11, 1787, the society completed a Presbyterian organization by electing Solomon Guernsey, James White and Isaac How, elders; Michael Middlebrook and Eliphalet Kellogg, deacons. The church was admitted to the Presbytery in 1787 or 1788, and August 20, 1788, William Schenck was installed pastor.

The pastors of the church from 1771 to the present time have been: Eliphalet Ball, Ebenezer Martin, William Schenck, John B. Smith, Jonathan Edwards, Joel Bradley, Stephen Porter, Reuben Sears, Reuben Smith, James V. Henry, Erasmus D. McMaster, Samuel S. Davis, David Murdock, George H. Thatcher, John B. Steele, Reuben Smith, Charles H. Taylor, E. B. Allen, A. B. Morse, Alexander S. Hoyt, Henry A. Lewis, S. R. Biggar, J. V. Wemple, and the present pastor, Philip Moore.

An unusual number of candidates for the ministry have gone forth from this church: Reuben Sears, Henry R. Weed, Samuel S. Davis, John K. Davis, James McCrea, Charles E. Farman, Theophilus Redfield, Montgomery M. Wakeman, David Murdock, Nicholas J. Seely, Thomas C. Kirkwood, William H. Milham, W. W. Curtis and Matthew H. Calkins.

The officers of the church at the present time are: The Session—William P. Betts, Charles Jennings, Edward Stewart, Lansing Cain. The Trustees—Herbert V. Calkins, Edward Stewart, Richard Post, Paul Brust, Lewis Sears, Austin J. Slade; clerk and treasurer, William De Freest.

The church celebrated its centennial September 22, 1875, at which time an exhaustive historical sketch of the church, by the pastor, Rev. Alexander S. Hoyt, was published.

The first Episcopal church in Saratoga county was instituted in the town of Ballston in 1787, under the name of "Christ's church," and a church edifice was erected at Ballston Centre. An account of this church will be found in connection with Christ church of Ballston Spa.

Presbyterian Church, Ballston Centre, 1907.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

Court House Hill, which became the county seat soon after the erection of the county in 1791, will always be a place of historic interest. The first court house and jail was erected here in 1796. It stood on the top of the hill, on the west side of the "middle line" road, near where the house of Mr. Boyd Miller now stands. A large hotel for that day was built opposite the court house. In 1798 the first newspaper in the county,

the "Saratoga Register or Farmers' Journal," was published at the thriving village. In 1813 there were, besides the court house, twenty-five houses and several stores. The settlement was called Ballston Village, and also Saratoga Village, from the name of the county. The court house was burned in 1816, and the county seat removed to Ballston Spa. Where a growing hamlet then existed there are now only two or three houses, one of them the old hotel which sheltered judges, barristers and jurors in those early days.

Ballston Lake is a small hamlet at the head of the lake, on the Delaware and Hudson railroad, and the Schenectady and Saratoga electric road.

Forest Park is a recently established and attractive summer resort on the western shore of the lake.

East Line is a small hamlet in the towns of Ballston and Malta, the "east line road" being the town line. The Episcopalians have a mission chapel here, and there is also a district school.

OLD HOTEL, COURT HOUSE HILL, ERECTED 1797.

Ballston Centre is on the "middle line," about a mile south of Court House Hill. The church organized by Eliphalet Ball is now lolated here, and is one of our most prosperous churches. A historical sketch of this earliest church is given elsewhere.

Academy Hill is one mile east of Ballston Centre. Spafford's Gazetteer, published in 1813, says: "The Academy and Town House, which was formerly occupied by Parson Ball and his congregation as a house of worship are located here. This is also called Ballston Village, and has an Academy, a post-office, hotel and twenty to thirty houses, stores, etc." The hotel was burned some years ago; and the "Academy," for many years an excellent school, teaching the higher English and classical branches, is now but a disappearing memory, the building having been destroyed by fire many years ago.

Burnt Hills is a beautiful village with a population of about three hundred. The hotel in the center of the village was one of the most popular taverns of stage-coaching days, being the half-way house between Schenectady and Ballston Spa. There are three churches—Baptist, Episcopal and Methodist. The Baptist society is one of the earliest in the county, having been instituted in 1791. There is also a graded public school.

For a number of years Rev. H. W. Bulkeley conducted a large boarding school for boys about two miles south of Ballston Spa, the Academy being situated on the south bank of the Mourning Kill. It is now the residence of Rev. S. B. Stewart.

The town, outside the village of Ballston Spa, has from the earliest settlement been devoted almost entirely to agricultural pursuits. Spafford's Gazetteer (1813) says: "The in-

habitants are principally farmers, of plain domestic habits, possessing the blessings of industry, temperance and frugality. Much of their clothing is the joint product of their farms and houses, the most honorable to farmers of any that can be worn."

In very early times Peter Williams had a tannery, and also a shoe-shop on the Mourning Kill.

Prior to 1825 Sylvester Blood had an axe factory on the Mourning Kill, and Edmund Hubbell a woolen mill on the same stream. The buildings were burned about 1825, and were not rebuilt.

Among the prominent men of the town during the past half century, with whom the writer had a personal acquaintance, the following are recalled: Henry I. Curtis, Samuel Rue, John J. Sherwood, Edward C. Delevan, Thomas Feeney, David R. Harlow, Thomas B. Sherwood, Egbert Haight, David Atkins, Henry Davis, Dorus Hicks, John Vibbard, John Van Buren, Charles W. Smith, Calvin T. Peek, Carmi Smith, S. Wakeman Buel, William Southard, Jonas Southard, Albert S. Curtis, William S. Curtis, James P. Smith, Morehouse Betts, Anson B. Garrett, Hanford Betts, George Smith, Samuel R. Garrett, Barnabas Crossman, Henry Doolittle, Amos Hewitt, Calvin P. Calkins, Jehiel J Miller, Elisha Curtis, Platt Jennings, Alonzo B. Comstock, Riley Crippen, the Bradts, the Merchants, Alexander Sears and Henry Sears, Sanford Pierson, the Larkins, John P. Roe, the popular auctioneer, Truman Kathan, Isaac Schauber, Nathan J. Seely, and Doctor Reuben Abel. These men, with the single exception of Dr. Abel, were prosperous farmers, the fertile soil, under their careful tillage, yielding abundant crops. From its first settlement to the present day the town has ever been one of the finest farming regions in the Empire State.

Mourning Kill, at Bulkeley's.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JAMES GORDON.

At the time Saratoga county was set off from Albany county, (1791), James Gordon had long been a distinguished citizen of this part of New York. He was born October 31, 1739, at Killcad, County of Antrim, Ireland, He was of a Presbyterian family of Scottish origin; his ancestors on both sides having emgrated from Scotland in "Montrose's time," to escape the persecution. His paternal ancestors were from Haddingtonshire, and more remotely from the Highlands. Having received a classical education, and disliking the medical profession for which his father had designed him, in 1758, at the age of nineteen, he embarked for New York on a mercantile adventure. Narrowly escaping the pursuit of a French privateer, his vessel safely arrived in port. After disposing of his share of the cargo, and visiting Philadelphia, he went to Albany, and subsequently in connection with John Macomb of that place, a relative, was engaged in furnishing supplies for the army which had then marched for Ticonderoga and Crown Point under the command of Gen. Amherst. On the close of the war he became a partner with Askim & Rogers, a commercial house in Albany, established principally for carrying on the Indian trade with Detroit and the other Western Forts. He continued in this business until 1763, when he sold out and returned to his parents in Ireland.

In 1765 he returned to America, and soon after went to Oswego and supplied goods for the garrison at that place, being a partner or agent of Phyne & Ellice, Indian traders of Schenectady. About 1771 he removed to the "Ball-Town district," then almost a wilderness, in which he was an extensive landed proprietor. In 1773 he visited his native country, and the next year the surviving members of his deceased father's family, consisting of his

mother, a brother, and two sisters,* followed him to Ballston. In 1775 he was married to Mary, daughter of Rev. Eliphalet Ball. He took an early and decided stand in favor of the colonies in their difficulty with the mother country, and when hostilities commenced his influence, which was quite extensive, was actively exerted in their behalf. He was commissioned as a Colonel of the State Militia, and performed service as such on several occasions during the war. His capture and imprisonment in Canada, and his escape and sufferings on the route from Quebec to Passamoquoddy, through the wildnerness, will hereafter be noticed. In 1785 he was commissioned a Brigadier-General by Governor Clinton.

Gen. Gordon was distinguished for his sagacity, sound and discreet judgment and strict integrity. Although reserved and somewhat austere in his intercourse, and dignified in his bearing, he was nevertheless the most popular man of his day in this locality. He was the first Supervisor of Ballston, which was then in Albany county, and embraced one-half of the present county of Saratoga, and continued in that position several years. He was a member of the Assembly, and nine years a State Senator. He was also a Representative in the Second and Third Congress, while Washington was President. In politics he was a Federalist. Sometime after the war he was honored with a visit at his residence in Ballston, from Gen. Washington, and some of the members of his military staff, who were returning from a tour of inspection at the North, and had visited on their return, the springs at Saratoga and Ballston. Gen. Gordon died in Ballston January 17, 1810.

BERIAH PALMER.

Beriah Palmer first came into this section about 1769, having been appointed a surveyor to assist in running the allotment lines of the Kayaderosseras Patent. When the survey was completed in 1771 he settled on the farm for many years known as the "Dominie Davis farm," near Burnt Hills, in late years the home of S. Wakeman Buel. During the Revolution he took a prominent and active part on the side of the patriots, and was a leading member of the Committee of Safety in this part of Albany county, and also served in the Twelfth Regiment of the State Militia. He represented Saratoga county in the Assembly in 1793-4-5; was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1791; representative in Congress 1803-5; delegate to Constitutional Convention of 1801; Surrogate 1808-12; Supervisor 1790-91 and again in 1799, and Moderator of the first Board of Supervisors of Saratoga county in 1791. Mr. Palmer died May 20, 1812, aged 72 years. His grave is in the village cemetery at Ballston Spa.

*Mrs. George Scott, and Sarah, afterwards Mrs. William McCrea.

DR. SAMUEL DAVIS.

Dr. Samuel Davis was the second physician to locate in the Balls-Town settlement, coming here in 1790. His predecessor in the field was Dr. Elisha Miller who came from Westchester county in 1770, about the same time as Parson Ball, and settled on the east side of the lake, near the outlet, and lived a long and active life. Dr. Davis was born in East Hampton, Long Island, in 1765. At an early age he chose the profession of medicine, and became distinguished as a physician and surgeon of the old school. After the completion of his medical course, he practiced with great acceptance for two years in Schoharie county, N. Y. Then Beriah Palmer and Seth C. Baldwin, two of Ballstown's influential citizens, learning from friends in Albany who had become acquainted with him, of his skill and success for so young a man, induced him to settle in Ballstown, where at, twenty-five years of age, he began a practice which continued with great success for fifty years. Dr. Davis settled on the "middle line," where A. J. Slade now resides. He died in 1840, in his 76th year. He secured not only an enviable confidence in his skill in the profession, but the respect, esteem and confidence of the inhabitants of the community, as a man of high moral character, genial and gentlemanly in his manners, and a christian gentleman.

SAMUEL YOUNG.

Samuel Young was born in the town of Lenox, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in December, 1779. He came with his parents to Saratoga county about the close of the

Revolutionary war. As a farmer's boy his opportunities for acquiring an education were limited to the "district school," and studying by the light of a pine knot, after a hard day's work in the field or woods, and long after the rest of the family were asleep. Having determined to enter the legal profession, he commenced the study of the law as a clerk in the office of Judge James Emott, then practicing near Court House Hill. After completing his studies, he was admitted to the Bar and soon acquired a large and lucrative practice.

He was early called into public life, and for more than thirty years was recognized as one of the leading statesmen of his time. He was Supervisor of Ballston in the years 1809-10-12-13; in 1814 he was Member of Assembly, and being returned in 1815, was elected Speaker. In 1816 he was appointed one of the canal commissioners of the State, serving in this capacity for twenty-four years, during which period the Erie canal was constructed. He was a military aide on the staff of Governor Tompkins in 1816, which gave him the title of "Colonel," and from this time until his death he was everywhere known as Colonel Young. In 1821 he was elected with Salmon Child, John Cramer and Jeremy Rockwell to represent Saratoga county in the State convention for the revision of the Constitution. In 1824 he was nominated for Governor, but was defeated by De Witt Clinton. The next year he was elected to the Assembly, and on the assembling of the Legislature in 1826, was again chosen Speaker. At this time, John W. Taylor, residing in the same town, was Speaker of the National House of Representatives. At the fall election in 1830 they were pitted against each other for Congress, Colonel Young being defeated by a small majority.

In 1833 he was appointed a first judge of Saratoga county, holding the office until the expiration of his term in 1838, declining reappointment. In 1835 he was again elected to the State Senate, and re-elected in 1838. Resigning in 1840, he was again chosen in 1845, and was a member of that body until the close of the session in 1847, when his term expired under the new Constitution. In 1842 the Legislature elected him Secretary of State, in which office he continued until 1845. During this term of office he was acting superintendent of common schools, and laid the foundation of our masterly system of public instruction. Colonel Young was one of the Regents of the University from 1817 to 1835, when he resigned.

After the close of his public career, in 1847, Colonel Young retired to his farm in Ballston, just north of Academy Hill, where he died on the third day of November, 1850, in the seventy-third year of his age. He was essentially a self-made man, and the habit of study acquired in early youth always clung to him, and he became possessed of a classical, scientific and general education such as few collegians aspire to. After passing the age of sixty he commenced the study of several of the modern languages, and retained his vigor of mind to the last.

Colonel Young was a public speaker of great force, and a gifted orator. He was in great demand throughout the State on public occasions, and delivered the oration at a celebration of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, in New York city, on July 4, 1840. On the Fourth of July, 1826, the semi-centennial of American Independence, Colonel Young, at that time Speaker of the State Assembly, presided at the celebration in Ballston Spa, and John W. Taylor, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, was the orator of the occasion. It is said of him that "he combined brilliant speaking with brilliant writing." As Speaker of the Assembly he became known as "the sword, the shield, and the ornament of his party."

Epenetus White was one of the party of surveyors in charge of Beriah Palmer. He was from Stamford, Connecticut, and his family was the only one of the congregation of Rev. Eliphalet Ball which accompanied him to the settlement in 1770, other families coming a year later. White settled on the east side of Ballston Lake, his homestead being on the site of the brick house for many years the Collamer residence. He was a man of ability and occupied a prominent position among the pioneer settlers. He served in the Revolutionary army. In 1794 he was appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

Stephen White, a brother of Epenetus White, came to the new settlement in Ball-Town in 1771. He was a Captain in Col. Van Schoonhoven's Regiment during the Revolution, and also in the regiment of Col. Marinus Willett. The late Judge Scott received from his father, James Scott, the following interesting reminiscence: "Capt. Stephen White in 1781 commanded a company of nine months men in Col. Willett's regiment. In the fall of that year this company distinguished itself in the battle of Johnstown. Capt. White, with several of his men, after a gallant struggle, was captured and taken to Canada. They did not return home until after the peace. During their march to Canada, the Indians formed the death ring around Capt. White, and while the tomahawk hung suspended over his head, he, with a courage and presence of mind seldom equalled, wrested it from the savage, while the other savages exclaimed "brave," and all proceeded on their march."

Seth C. Baldwin was a pioneer settler of the town. His home was near Academy Hill. He filled important public positions for many years. He was Supervisor in 1793, and 1800-1; Member of Assembly 1797-8-9; Sheriff 1801-2-3; County Clerk for nine years, from 1804 to 1813. He kept the county records at his residence, no public office having then been built.

Edward A. Watrous came in 1771 and made his pioneer home on the south side of Court House hill, where the late Alonzo Comstock resided. Mr. Watrous served in the Revolutionary war, and was among those who were captured in the Tory raid of 1780, and taken to Canada. He was Member of Assembly 1800-2; supervisor in 1794-5-6; county treasurer from 1805 to 1810.

The three McCrea brothers, Samuel, James and William, came from New Jersey soon after Eliphalet Ball, and located about one mile north of Academy Hill. They were prominent men in the settlement, and became widely known through the tragic death of their sister, Jeannie McCrea. James McCrea was Member of Assembly in 1824, and Supervisor from 1816 to 1823. In 1818 he was appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Samuel McCrea was Supervisor in 1805-6-7-8. William McCrea was Coroner in 1809-10.

Among residents of the town in the early years who held official positions we find Henry Walton, Surrogate from 1794 to 1808; David Rogers, Member of Assembly in 1805-7-9-11; John Gibson, Member of Assembly in 1818; Abner Carpenter, Member of Assembly in 1819; Samuel Cook, Master in Chancery in 1801; Caleb Benedict, County Treasurer in 1794; Nathan Raymond, Coroner in 1796-7-8; Nathaniel Booth, Supervisor 1802-3-4.

BRIGGS BURYING GROUND,
Many pioneer settlers are buried here.

"Burning of Ballstown"

THE greatest disaster which befell the Ballstown District during the Revolutionary War was one of the tragic events of the Indian and Tory raid known in history as The Northern Invasion of 1780. That the notorious tory spy, Joe Bettys, was the instigator of the raid upon the Ballstown settlement, there can be little doubt; that he acted as guide for Captain Munro is conclusively shown in the narration of the meeting of Bettys and Hezekiah Middlebrook on the day preceding the night in October when the descent was made upon the settlement.

Mr. Booth in his unpublished history, gives the most authentic and complete account of this historic event, and other exploits of Joe Bettys of a similar character, that has ever been written.

The diary of Colonel Gordon, and the story of Mrs. Waller, his daughter, who was an eye-witness of the scenes enacted on that terrible night, have never before been published. Nor is the story of "The Tory, Banta," to be found in the published histories.

In the chapter which follows, Mr. Booth has made a valuable contribution to the history of the Revolution.

THE TORY SPY—JOE BETTYS.

By John C. Booth.

Among all the fears of the people none could equal that in which one man alone was held. This individual was Joseph Bettys, an embodiment of every trait that would serve to render a man dangerous and to be dreaded. In all the injuries inflicted on the settlement his hand could be traced. Around him as the centre from which they received their intelligent direction and power—all the secret machinations and bold escapades that so often startled the northern frontier revolved. Secret and unscrupulous in his means; daring and desperate in action; malicious and revengeful by nature, he was the incarnation of all that was terrible in war, and fearful in the spy and desperado. No individual in that long contest exhibited such daring, such ability in the acts of the spy, such undaunted resolution, such desperate sacrifices, as did he, and when to these we add a malice that was insatiable, a conscience that knew no guide but revenge, a nature utterly unscrupulous in its choice of means to gratify its unhallowed ends, we have a character which in times of peace was to be feared, and in the unbridled license of war became an object of unmitigated terror. Such was Joe Bettys, and his name to this day is held in merited execration for his manifold crimes and outrages on this frontier.

His father and himself had settled in the district shortly after Mr. Ball came, on the site where William Wilson now resides,[1] next south of the Merchant place, on the Middle Line. Here the family kept an inn, dispensing the usual "entertainment for man and beast," which the narrow limits and scanty larder of a frontier cabin and "clearing" could supply to a custom that could not have been large or fastidious. The elder Bettys seems to have been much respected and esteemed by his neighbors, and an unsuspected patriot. He was quite advanced in years when the Revolution began, and from age and disposition took no active interest in the movement. Probably too, like a wise Boniface, as he no doubt was, he thought it prudent in "mine host" not to offend either party by an officious activity, lest custom should suffer.

Not so with his son, however. Irritable, fond of excitement, bold and reckless, war offered to him a field of activity too inviting to be avoided. Accordingly we find John Ball enlisting him as sergeant in Captain Van

[1]Now the residence of Anson Mead.

Vechten's company. With him he went to the relief of Fort Stanwix. Unaccustomed to the restraints of military life and unable to control his temper, he one day struck his superior officer, for some imaginary insult, and for this offense was reduced to the ranks. Who can tell how much this first disgrace affected his life and aroused those feelings of malignant revenge which prompted his after deeds? Still, through the intercession of powerful friends, who knew his boldness and daring, he was again promoted, but in another branch of service. He had, before the war, lead a wild and roving life, and sometime followed the sea. In the northern campaign of '76, he was appointed to a sergeantcy on one of the vessels composing the fleet commanded by Arnold on Lake Champlain. No two men, in the marked features of their characters, more resembled each other. Both were brave almost to recklessness; both unscrupulous and selfish; both headstrong and irritable; both as skillful in management as they were undaunted in danger; both malignant and revengeful in heart; and both attained to the same deathless notoriety; traitors to the holiest of causes, and despoilers of the heritage they sought to betray.

In the desperate action which closed that campaign, Bettys fighting under the immediate eye of General Waterbury, displayed a courage and skill that won tokens of the warmest approval from that veteran commander. In the midst of the bloodiest slaughter, when all of his superior officers were killed or disabled, and his vessel sinking, with a courage which no danger could daunt, he still continued to fight his ship with a skill and desperation that seemed to defy defeat. Not until orders from his General compelled him did he quit his sinking hulk, and then in the heat of the action repairing to Waterbury's vessel, he continued to fight with the same unflinching bravery, until its flag was finally struck to the enemy. Better far had it been for Bettys could he have perished in this bloody battle! But the evil fates reserved him as a scourge to his countrymen and a disgrace to mankind.

After this action he went to Canada, received an ensign's commission in the British army, and devoted himself body and soul to the cause of the Crown. His intimate knowledge of the country, his sagacity and cunning, his indomitable perseverance and courage made him an invaluable acquisition to the enemy. Secreting a body of soldiers in some hiding place in the neighboring forests, to be near to assist him in an emergency, he would enter the frontier settlements in some impenetrable disguise and marking its prominent patriots, return to the rendezvous, and when night had fallen upon his unsuspecting victims, sally forth, capturing their persons and pillaging their houses. At other times, did his commander in Canada desire to communicate with the British in New York, Bettys was the man selected for the hazardous enterprise. Unknown, unscathed, he would pass and repass through the savage wilderness, the hostile camps and country, on his treasonable errands, well knowing that discovery was death, and that the country was alive with spies for his detection. No enterprise was too hazardous for his courage or too difficult for his perseverance. Continually hovering with predatory bands of Tories and Indians upon the frontier, and constantly in communication with the disaffected, he possessed accurate intelligence of the strength and movements of the patriots, and was thus enabled to fall upon any unprotected locality with a certainty of success that clothed his movements with something akin to supernatural dread.

At one time with a band of desperadoes, he was leading a wild foray for pillage upon some devoted settlement; at another, with a few chosen comrades, he was dogging the steps of some ardent patriot to secure his capture. Now in a disguise that would defy detection he could be seen boldly walking the streets of Albany, gathering information and spying out its strength; then again skulking in the cover of the neighboring wood he would send the assassin's bullet on its deadly mission, aimed at some doomed Whig peacefully laboring in his "clearing," or in the dead of night apply the torch to the corn-ricks and cabins of some victim of his malignant revenge. Ballstown seemed to be an especial object of hatred to him. Time and again was it startled by some daring escapade or wanton outrage perpetrated by him. And yet every motive of an honorable man would have led him to spare his old neighbors.

In one of his expeditions as a spy he was

captured in the Highlands of the lower Hudson. Tried and condemned, he was doomed to the gibbet, when moved by the entreaties of his aged parents, the leading Whigs of Ballstown interceded for his pardon. Washington listened to their appeal and he was released from his merited doom and returned to his home. Probably maddened by the taunts of his neighbors and the disgrace of his treason, he repudiated the conditions of his pardon, and entered with more ferocity upon his career of desperate crime. His design seems to have been to capture and make way with every prominent patriot in the district.

His first attempt was against Major Mitchell, who lived just north of his father's inn. The Major, always active and fearless in discharge of his duties, had been to Schenectady one day in the fall of '79 on business, and towards evening was returning alone on horse-back. He had crossed the Ael-Plaas below Burnt Hills, and was riding slowly through the woods when he was suddenly confronted by Bettys. Suspecting a plan to entrap him, he put spurs to his horse, and turned him suddenly into the timber. As he did so he heard the ominous clicking of gun locks from the bushes near by and the shout of Bettys calling upon him to stop. "Hout, tout, my man! It's no time for honest folk to be stopping here," replied the wary Scot, and springing from his horse he plunged into the almost impenetrable underbrush for escape. The baffled Tories sent a volley after him, but without effect, as the doughty Major came off safe and alarmed the settlement.

During the following night, however, these desperadoes succeeded in capturing Judge Epenetus White and Captain David Rumsey, two old residents on the east shore of the Lake, and after pillaging their houses bore them off unmolested to Canada. The next year Bettys again returned from the north with a large force. During the season he was frequently seen skulking about the country, but all effort for his capture was unsuccessful. Aided by his marvelous knowledge of its hiding-places, and by assistance from the Tory residents of the district, he baffled every attempt at seizure. The disappearance of stock, the burning of some dwelling, or the sudden departure of some suspected Tory, showed that the daring marauder was busy at his work, pillaging and enlisting men for the Crown.

THE TORY RAID OF 1780.

At last he executed the master stroke of malice and revenge. Although he took no personal part in the actual transaction we are about to relate, yet there is every indication that he instigated, planned and guided the whole movement. From memoranda made by the Hon. George G. Scott, of his father's (James Scott) narrative of the transactions of that fearful night, we are enabled to give the following account:

It was in the month of October in 1780. The particulars of the fearful massacre at Cherry Valley had but a short time previously reached the Ball-Town settlement. Our informant says. "I well recollect that a traveler in search of land, probably a speculator, stopped at our house and while eating his meal related to us all the particulars of that massacre. We had not before heard of it. I remember also that our family, for several nights, fastened up the house and slept in the woods; putting their most valuable effects in a chest and burying it in the ground." As the tidings of the fate of Cherry Valley spread through the settlement we can well imagine the terror produced by the above example. These apprehensions soon died away and the people began to feel a sense of security. But a master hand had woven the meshes of this plot against their safety, and he was never known to waver from his purpose.

Sir Guy Carleton, then commanding in Canada, had fitted out an expedition of one thousand men, mostly refugees and Indians, to harass the northern frontier. Coming up Lake Champlain they landed at Bullwagga Bay, near Crown Point. Here a party of some two hundred, many of whom were Tories from the Ball-Town neighborhood, were despatched under command of Captain Hugh Munro, to march through the wilderness for that settlement, with orders "to plunder, burn, and take prisoners, but not to kill unless attacked." These orders, it is said, originated in a desire to prevent the bloody atrocities that had occurred at Cherry Valley. Crossing the wilderness to the head-waters of the Kayaderosseras, they followed that stream down

to West Milton. It was on the day that they arrived here, that Hezekiah Middlebrook, driving some cattle from his homestead in the south part of the neighborhood, to a "clearing" he had further north in what is now called Milton, suddenly met Joe Bettys, who had not been heard from since the year before. Of all the men in the patriot cause, Middlebrook seems to have been the only one for whom the spy had any feeling of gratitude. As a slight redeeming incident it deserves mention in the long record of crime and perfidy that constitutes his life. It also shows that Bettys was cognizant of the whole movement. Middlebrook before the war had shown "Joe" some little favor that had won his regard, and during these disastrous times had been full of neighborly kindnesses to his aged parents. Contrary to the usual bent of his nature, these acts seem to have inspired a sentiment of gratitude in the Tory's heart, and although Middlebrook was a prominent Whig and Chairman of the Committee of Safety, he hesitated not to interfere for his safety.

Bettys questioned Middlebrook as to where he was going, and when informed, requested him to return to his home. Something in the Tory's manner impressed him with a sense of some impending danger, and accompanied by "Joe" he retraced his steps. Bettys did not go far with him, however, but suddenly plunging into the woods by the road-side, left Middlebrook in a quandary of fear and wonder at his mysterious conduct.

That night, October 16th, Munro's command commenced their march upon the devoted settlement. Their route lay down "Paisley street" through the Scotch settlement before spoken of to the house of a Tory named James McDonald, who lived about one mile west of what is now known as "Court House Hill," near Jonathan McBride's present residence.[2] About dusk they stopped at a Highland Scotchman's, one Angus McDearmid. The Indians were highly delighted with a spinning wheel which Dame McDearmid was using. The house was filled so full with the untutored admirers of this ancient household appendage, that the floor gave way, precipitating all into the cellar. McDearmid

"THE KAYADEROSSERAS RIVER, DOWN FROM BLITTERSDORF BRIDGE, BALLSTON SPA.

[2]Now the residence of Mrs. John Welsh.

seems to have been a Loyalist; at all events on friendly terms with the enemy.

Under the guidance of McDonald they here left the road, and following a well-beaten trail across the farm now owned by John J. Sherwood, came to the "clearing" of General Gordon. Here the party was divided, one detachment going to the house of Captain Tyrannis Collins, who lived near by, just across the Mourning Kill. Arrived here they attempted to break in the door, which was barred, with their tomahawks. Collins, aroused by the noise and suspecting the cause, sprang to the door and pressed against it with his back, until he was finally severely wounded by a blow from a tomahawk through the now shattered door. Effecting an entrance they made him prisoner. His son Mannassah, or "Mann" Collins, slept up-stairs in the cabin, and creeping through a square hole in the logs, intended for a window, escaped to the Fort and gave the alarm.

The other party advanced directly upon Gordon's house which stood on the north side of the Mourning Kill, near the present house occupied by Solyman Coon.[3] It was surrounded by many appliances of comfort and luxury, which the wealth of its owner enabled him to command; though when compared with the farm houses of the present day in that neighborhood, it would present but a meagre and uninviting appearance. The first intimation of danger that Gordon received was the smashing of the glass in the windows of the apartment in which himself, wife and little daughter[4] were sleeping. Springing from his bed he rushed to the door of the room opening into the hall, now filled with the enemy. As he opened the door a powerful savage raised his tomahawk to strike him, but an officer arrested his arm as the blow was descending, aimed at Gordon's head. At this time the old brass clock in the hall struck twelve. An Indian hearing it, shattered it in pieces with his tomahawk, exclaiming: "You never speak again." Having secured Gordon a scene of indiscriminate pillage ensued. The house was ransacked from top to bottom by the thieving squaws who accompanied the party, and everything that was of value that was portable carried away. An attempt was made to fire the house and barns, but this was prevented by those in command. This order was not given on account of any generous scruples, but from the fact that they had learned that the Fort at the church had been, within a few days, garrisoned by two hundred militia from Schenectady, and they were fearful that the light from the burning buildings would give the alarm of their proceedings. This information had also thwarted the original design of the expedition, which was to attack Schenectady, at which place Captain Munro had formerly been a merchant.

Turning their attention to Balls-Town it was determined to capture every prominent Whig, and to lay waste their homesteads. But fearful of an attack in their rear, should they proceed to the southward of the fort, they began their operations at Gordon's. Besides Gordon, they took from his house Jack Galbraith, an Irishman, John Parlow, a Canadian boy, servants, and Nero,[5] Jacob and Ann, negro slaves. Another slave, a fat wench, "Liz," unobserved in the darkness and confusion, escaped to the cornfield, where she hid. The house dog, affrighted, ran barking towards her, when she tore a strip from her nightgown and tied it fast around his mouth to prevent his noise. She escaped capture.

While these events were transpiring, the other party had attacked the house of Isaac Stow, Gordon's miller, which stood on the present site of the district school house. Stow escaped from them and ran towards Gordon's for the purpose of alarming him. Seeing the party with Gordon and the other prisoners coming towards the road he shouted, "Colonel Gordon, save yourself! the Indians!" Gordon's captors started towards him. Stow detected his danger and sprang to one side towards a thicket on the bank of the mill-pond. Ere he reached it, however, an Indian hurled his pontoon at him, and he fell. The savage then dispatched him with his tomahawk, and secured his scalp. Thus the faithful man perished in his generous effort to save the life of his employer.

The two parties now uniting, with their prisoners and booty they advanced northward up the "middle line." The next house they

[3]Now the home of Fred West.

[4]Afterwards Mrs. Ver Planck and subsequently Mrs. Waller.

[5]James Scott received most of this information from Nero, after his return from captivity.

attacked was Thomas Barnum's whom they captured. He lived where Dorus Hicks now resides.[6] From here they proceeded to Captain Elisha Benedict's place. Here they made prisoners of the Captain and his three sons, Caleb, Elias and Felix, and Dublin, his slave, and after pillaging the house, fired the barn. The next house was the residence of Edward A. Watrous.[7] It stood on the south side of Court House Hill, and east of the road, and next beyond him, on the site where the old Court House was afterward built dwelt his father-in-law, Paul Pierson, and his son, John Pierson. These three were also captured and carried along. Beyond this, next north, lived John Higby and his son Lewis, where Samuel Raymond now resides.[8] They were taken and the house burnt. The "Hawkins farm," where James Tibbetts now resides,[9] was then occupied by Jonathan Tiler. He heard the noise, and saw the light of Benedict's burning barn, and suspecting the cause aroused his family in all haste, and seizing what few effects he could carry, fled with them into the thick hemlocks that adjoined his "clearing" on the east. The enemy coming up, pillaged his premises and fired the house, and then passed on to the north. Tiler's mother-in-law, "Granny Leake," who had concealed herself near the house, as soon as they had retired, rushed from her hiding place and succeeded in quenching the fire. The building yet stands, an eloquent memorial of that fearful night, with its sides charred with the fire that, but for the brave Granny Leake, would have reduced it to ashes.

The next house was that of Lemuel Wilcox, a short distance north, on the east side of the road. Wilcox was in the army, and Mrs. Wilcox was alone. Hearing the noise at Tiler's and seeing the marauders approaching, she ran across the clearing to seek a hiding place in the barn. She was overtaken by a stalwart Indian, carrying a burning torch in his hand. The eye of the savage caught the glitter of a string of gold beads on the neck of Mrs. Wilcox, and with a stroke of his scalping knife he severed the chain, secured the beads, and hastily followed his party. Mrs. Wilcox sank fainting to the ground from terror, but was uninjured save for a slight cut on her neck.

About three-quarters of a mile further north was the house of George Scott, standing on the eminence northeast of the house where his son, the late James Scott, afterwards resided.[10] On the stream now known as Gordon Creek, to the southward of Scott's house, was a saw-mill, and the road, instead of running as now, due north, turned to the west a little below this mill, and almost followed the bank of the creek to what is now the Milton town line. This left Scott's house some little distance from the road. Arrived at the mill a detachment of fifty men was detailed to surprise Scott. Having been a short time before alarmed by an attack of wolves upon some young stock feeding in the enclosure in front of his house, and hearing his trusty dog barking violently, he supposed the wolves were again at their mischief. Seizing his gun he went to the door in his night clothes, and on opening it saw the enemy advancing along the path that led from the road. It was a bright moonlight night, and objects were easily distinguished. The party was commanded by one Frazer, an old acquaintance of Scott's, who before the war resided in Scotch Bush, in the south part of the town. Seeing Scott armed and knowing that his life would be forfeited should he resist, Frazer shouted, "Scott, throw down your gun or you are a dead man!" Not obeying the command, three Indians simultaneously threw their tomahawks at him, striking him on his head. He fell and they rushed forward to scalp him, but Lieutenant Frazer and one Staats Springstead, a German, who had prior to the war worked for Scott, but now acted as sergeant to the party, interfered, and with their drawn swords kept the Indians from farther violence. The house was plundered and everything of value carried away. Scott, however, the enemy supposing him mortally wounded, was left where he had fallen, weltering in his blood.

James Scott in his description of this fear-

[6]The Hicks house was on the west side of the "middle line," the first house north of the road running past the Briggs cemetery. It was burned some years ago. The foundation can still be seen.

[7]The Watrous cabin stood a little south of the residence of the late Alonzo B. Comstock.

[8]Now the residence of William Pierson.

[9]Now the home of Thomas Olney.

[10]Now the home of Patrick Dohig.

ful night, says: "I slept up stairs, and my mother, fearing the house would be burned, led me down into the room. I was not much alarmed until I saw my father, with his face covered with blood. The Indians were completely attired in their war dress, and their faces painted with alternate stripes of red and black. They collected together whatever plunder they could find about the house, and carried off everything in the shape of clothing. Mistaking some pewter dishes for silver, they took them off, and the next day they were found scattered along the road. Among the articles they took was a wig which my father brought from Ireland. My uncle Gordon afterwards told me that whilst on their march he saw an Indian with a wig on, the wrong side foremost, which he knew was my father's, and concluded he was killed. I, becoming frightened, took to my heels and concealed myself down the hill. The party, after remaining about half an hour, leaving the house almost empty, and supposing, as they declared, that my father would die, marched away. My mother missing me, and fearing they had carried me off, called loudly for me, and coming from my hiding place where I had lain with nothing on me but my shirt, I ran to her, to her great joy. My father had with his hands rubbed the blood all over his face, which made him appear to have been injured worse than he actually was. He was then between sixty and seventy years of age, and ultimately recovered."

This party again uniting with the other, they advanced upon the next house, that of George Kennedy, which stood where Silas Parks now lives. Kennedy was taken, and his house plundered and burned. His wife, the daughter of John Higby, succeeded in making her escape. She was far advanced in pregnancy, and alone, with no covering save her night clothes, she wandered through the dark forest until daylight, when weary and exhausted, having waded through three streams in her flight, she arrived in the morning at Samuel McCrea's "clearing." Within two weeks after this she was delivered of her first-born child. Kennedy's house was the first one burned by orders, the other buildings having been fired by the Indians, the British officers being unable to restrain them. Now they had advanced so far from the fort, they were no longer fearful of being overtaken, and Munro's orders were hereafter "to plunder and burn."

Just before reaching Kennedy's, Nero, the negro slave of Colonel Gordon, attempted to escape. He suddenly broke from the ranks and sprang headlong down a ravine. His head coming in contact with a sapling rendered him partially unconscious and he was retaken. At Montreal he was sold, as were the other slaves captured by Munro. In a few weeks, Nero and Captain Benedict's negro boy, Dublin, contrived to escape. They came by the west shore of Lake Champlain to Ticonderoga, and there swam across the lake and found their way to Richmond, Massachusetts. There they remained until the close of the war, when they returned to Ballston and voluntarily surrendered themselves to their former masters.

Beyond Kennedy's was the house of Jabez Patchen, where Hiram Wood now lives.[11] Patchen was taken, but his son Walter, and his son-in-law Enos Morehouse, escaped from the back window and concealed themselves in the adjoining cornfield. On the east side of the road, where James Thompson's lower barn stands, was the dwelling of Josiah Hollister. This was burned and its owner taken prisoner. Where the late Judge Thompson's residence stands, an old man, Ebenezer Sprague, and his two sons, John and Elijah, lived. Opposite, where George B. Powell resides,[12] dwelt Thomas Kennedy. The Spragues and Kennedy were taken, and the house of the former burned. John Kennedy, living opposite to the present residence of Nathaniel Mann, was already astir that morning, preparing to butcher his hogs. He was about lighting a fire when he was startled by the flames from Sprague's burning dwelling. Surmising what it meant he extinguished his fire and secreted himself and wife in the adjoining woods. When the enemy arrived, finding no one, they passed on, carrying off but little. On the next corner were the dwellings of Enoch and Stephen Wood. Stephen was fortunately absent from home, but Enoch and his hired man, one Fillmore, were taken, and their houses and a barn containing eight hundred bushels of wheat were burned.

[11]Now the home of Lanson Wiswall.
[12]Now the home of Walter Conley.

This was the last "clearing" north but one, and that belonged to a tory.

Just after leaving here, Fillmore, who was guarded by an Irishman, a regular soldier, in front and a young German behind him, coming to a path that branched off from the road, suddenly plunged into it and ran for his life. The German inquired of the Irishman, "Shall I shoot?" The Irishman missing his prisoner replied, "Yes, you d—d fool!" They both fired at the fugitive; one ball whizzed through his ear-lock. Coming to a large hemlock tree that had fallen across the path he secreted himself in its branches and thus escaped. This was told to James Scott by Fillmore himself.

Day was just dawning as they forded the Kayaderosseras creek, at what is now Milton Centre. Behind them they could trace their desolating march by the lurid flames of burning homesteads that lighted up the sky with a fearful glare. From Gordon's north, not a household had been spared from pillage, and scarcely one head of a family had escaped the general capture. What a night of fearful alarm was that! What terror and anxious foreboding brooded over those hapless families, as standing around the flaming ruins of their once happy homes, their thoughts followed their husbands and brothers into their weary captivity and towards their unknown fate. The pitiful shrieks of mourning women, the cries of helpless infancy, mingling with the smoke and crackling flames of burning homes, followed the trail of the despoiler as he retreated into the fastnesses of the Northern Wilderness.

Having crossed the Kayaderosseras, Munro, now knowing that the country and garrison at the Fort must have been alarmed, and that he would be pursued, took measures to prevent a rescue of the prisoners. The prisoners were told off, and placed under the guard of two men each. Their hands were pinioned and the order given that on the first signal of pursuit, even the firing of a gun, each guard should kill his prisoner. For this inhuman order, justice to the British government requires that we should state, Munro, on his arrival in Montreal was court-martialed and cashiered. Taken in the dead of night, the prisoners were without adequate clothing. The season was severe, and barefooted and

"THE GLEN," KAYADEROSSERAS RIVER, BALLSTON SPA.

but partially dressed, one of them having only a sheet to cover his nakedness, they entered upon their mournful march to the northward. One source of alarm to the captives was that the Indians would fall back and cause guns to be fired in order that Munro's barbarous instructions should be carried out. An appeal had been made alike to their ferocity and avarice, in the form of a reward for scalps, and the prisoners had ample reason to fear for their safety in this particular. Every step of their weary journey they feared would be their last.

Arriving at the foot of the Kayaderosseras Mountains they halted for breakfast. On their march they had driven before them all the cattle, sheep, and swine they could find, and here they slaughtered them. Mr. Scott, in his memoranda, says: "Several years ago I saw the bones of the cattle slaughtered there and they formed quite a sepulchre." Remaining here some two hours, they resumed their march up the mountain by a well-defined Indian trail, and shortly before sunset halted for the night about two miles northeast of Lake Desolation. Here George Kennedy, who shortly before his capture had cut his foot with an axe, unable to proceed farther, and maddened with the pain from his wounded limb, begged Munro to kill him on the spot rather than compel him to go on. Anxious not to be delayed, Munro released him and Paul Pierson and Ebenezer Sprague, two old men who could not have borne the journey, and they returned home. Gordon also sent a message to the settlement advising them of Munro's murderous orders, and cautioning them against pursuit.

News of this terrible event having spread over the settlements, the next day a party from Freehold (Charlton), among whom were Squire Patchen, Kenneth Gordon and Caleb Holmes, came over to the scene of desolation and started in pursuit. They followed the trail to the mountain, when looking up they saw this little party coming down the declivity. Imagining the enemy returning they concealed themselves on each side of the path, with orders that on a signal being given they should all fire on the supposed foe. Just as the leader of the party was about to give this preconcerted signal to fire, the three men approaching were discovered to be their old friends released from captivity, and they escorted them home. Happy for them was it that they met their rescuers as they did! For dogging their steps were a party of Indians, who learning of their release, had unobserved fallen back from the main body and followed them for the purpose of killing them and securing their scalps. They were just on the point of consummating their murderous purpose as they discovered their rescuers. This incident was told by the Indians themselves to the captives while on the march. Captain Ball with a company of men from the Fort also went in pursuit, but learning from the returning captives the danger to the prisoners should a rescue be attempted, he also desisted.

For the further particulars of this daring enterprise, and the fate of its victims, the reader is referred to the memoranda of General Gordon and the narrative of his daughter, the late Mrs. Waller.

THE RAID OF 1781.

Still thirsting for further gratification of his malice on his old friends and neighbors, Bettys executed another bold incursion into the settlement in the month of May, 1781. In this expedition he commanded in person. It was a bold and open raid, executed in full day, and marks the reckless daring of the man. Following the same route from the north as the expedition of the previous year, with a body of tories and Indians he passed down "Paisley street" to the south part of the town. His object is said to have been the capture of Judge Beriah Palmer, but in this he was thwarted, the latter being fortunately absent from home. Arriving at the south end of the Lake the party divided. A detachment under Waltermeyer, a daring tory partisan from the German Flats in the Mohawk country, and whose atrocities were the terror of that region, went down the eastern shore. The first prisoner taken by this party was John Fulmer, a brother of the young man who afterwards captured Bettys. He was at work on his father's farm when captured. Thence they proceeded north to the residence of the two Whig brothers, Banta, capturing them and pillaging their houses. They also took one Cassidy who lived in this region. From the

"outlet" they crossed over to the "middle line" to join Bettys.

Bettys not finding Palmer turned northward through the "clearings" lying west of the "middle line." Here he took Samuel Nash and Consider Chard. On the road leading west from the Presbyterian church, near where Alexander Stewart now resides, dwelt Uri and Ephraim Tracy. They were taken and their houses plundered. Here Bettys turned into the "middle line," and the two parties uniting, retreated in the face of open day with their prisoners and booty up that main highway towards the north. On the night with the intention of surprising it when all should have retired. Fortunately they were discovered, owing to the vigilance of one Ward, who was guard that night, and they fled from the neighborhood. Grateful for his escape from so imminent a peril, Schuyler settled a pension upon the faithful Ward from his own purse, which was continued until his death.

THE END OF BETTYS' CAREER.

The long series of his successful crimes was about to close, and retributive fate was following fast upon the track of the hardened

SCENES ON BALLSTON LAKE.

way they took Samuel Patchen. Stript of most of its leading and able-bodied men, the settlement was utterly unable now to offer any resistance to the marauders, and fleeing to their hiding places they left their homes to the mercy of the enemy. Thus these desperadoes were able to effect their retreat in safety.

ATTEMPTED CAPTURE OF GENERAL SCHUYLER.

The story of Bettys' life would be incomplete did we not mention one incident which for the boldness of its design and the hazard of its execution eclipses all the others. It was no less than an attempt to surprise and capture General Schuyler. This daring plot was attempted during the campaign of 1777, and shortly after the tory had been pardoned by Washington. Learning that Schuyler was stopping at the mansion of the Patroon Van Rensselaer, at Albany, Bettys, with a party of tories secretly surrounded the house at

desperado. About half a mile west of the hotel in the present village of Jonesville lived one Fulmer, who as early as 1773 had purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land thereabout, and settled thereon. He was father of John Fulmer, who was captured in the last tory foray and carried to Canada. Here Fulmer resided during the Revolution, and with the aid of his stout son, Jacob Fulmer, a lad fifteen years of age, and two buxom daughters, cultivated his land and instilled lessons of practical courage and patriotism, by precept and example, into the hearts of his children. In March they had a "sap-bush" in the maple woods about a mile south of where they lived, and the father and his children were there engaged in the sweet mysteries of "sugaring," for it was "war time," and few could enjoy the luxury of foreign "sweetening." While father Fulmer and his daugh-

ters, Lydia and Elizabeth, tended the kettles, the brave lad Jacob was sent home to yoke the cattle and draw some cornstalks from a stack in the field to the barn, for fodder for the stock. He had just finished this labor and stepped into the house when his sisters came running in great haste from the "sap-bush," with a message from his father, to come immediately to him, as a suspicious man with a pack on his back, armed and carrying snow shoes, had just passed the bush, and he believed him to be a tory emissary. Jacob, rejoiced at such an opportunity for the display of his courage and enterprise, hastened to the house of a neighboring Whig, whose two sons, John and James Corey, were his especial friends. Here he found the young men and another crony of his, one Francis Perkins, "all good and true-hearted fellows," as he afterwards described them.

Requesting them to join him, which they did with alacrity, the party hastened to the "sap-bush." Here the father described the stranger, and pointed out his footsteps in the snow, which fortunately had fallen to the depth of two or three inches the previous night, and thus rendered it easy to track him. The morning was one of those moist and foggy ones so usual in early spring in this latitude, and the trail showed that the man was at a loss as to his course; for it turned and doubled on itself several times. This enabled his pursuers to gain rapidly upon him. They followed him about a mile to the southward, when the trail turned to the house of one Hawkins, a notorious tory. Satisfied from this that the man was an enemy they determined on his capture. Quietly approaching the house through the soft snow, they heard those within conversing, and suddenly rushing upon the door they bursted it open and found their man eating, with his rifle resting on his shoulder, the breech on the floor between his legs. His first impulse was to raise his rifle and fire upon his pursuers, but being delayed by removing the deer-skin cover of his gun-lock, they fell upon and overpowered him before he could carry out his fatal purpose. Depriving him after a severe struggle of his rifle, two pistols and a knife, they securely pinioned his arms behind him, and asking him his name, to which he replied, "Smith," they conveyed him to Fulmer's house. Arrived here, imagine their surprise when good mother Fulmer instantly recognized him, exclaiming, "It is old Joe Bettys." Somewhat disturbed by this sudden recognition, the captured tory hung his head and stammering, replied, "No, my name is Smith." But it was of no use. Young Polly Fulmer had also seen him before at the house of one Van Epps, down on the "Schenectady Patent," where she had been at service, and her quick eye detected the dreaded desperado through all his disguises. As soon as she saw the prisoner she exclaimed, "This is Joe Bettys."

Astounded and delighted at this intelligence, the enterprising young men marched him to John Corey's house. Soon after arriving here the prisoner asked permission to smoke. As he stooped down to light his pipe at the open fire-place, he was seen to throw something into it. John Corey immediately seized it, snatching off a handful of live coals with it. It was a small piece of sheet lead, doubled very thin, inside of which was found a strip of paper, containing twenty-four figures, and also an order on the Mayor of New York for thirty pounds sterling, payable on the delivery of the lead and paper enclosed. They could not decipher the figures, but Bettys, much disconcerted by their discovery of the paper, offered them one hundred guineas to burn it. This they refused. Bettys exclaimed, "that paper will take my life," and offered large bribes would they but destroy it, or release him. The recollection of the many wanton outrages, the cold-blooded murders, the burned dwellings and cruel captivities that could be traced to his hands, steeled their hearts against these appeals to their avarice or mercy. During that day many of their tory neighbors came to see Bettys, and they were fearful a rescue might be attempted. About three o'clock in the afternoon, in order to put the tories on a wrong scent they informed them they should take their prisoner to Schenectady that day, and dispersing the crowd they prepared for their journey. The four armed themselves with muskets, and pinioning the captive tory's arms behind him, they tied another rope to that, passing it over his shoulders, and by this Fulmer led him. Instead of going to Schenectady they struck due east, and at night reached the house of one Captain Taylor, a Whig, who lived on the

Hudson where Mechanicville now is. Here they stopped for rest, and twenty or thirty of the neighborhood, delighted at the capture of the dreaded marauder, volunteered to guard him during the night. The next morning they moved down the river to Half-Moon Point, where they crossed to the east side. They had not proceeded far on this side before they were met by a large party of officers and armed gentlemen, who hearing of the capture, and fearful of a rescue, had come out from Albany to meet the brave men who had done such a noble service for their country, and escort them and their perilous charge into the city. Forming around them they entered the capital together. The streets were crowded with curious and joyful people who had come out to see the man who had caused so much misery, as he was led by his gallant captors to his doom. Bettys remarked to Fulmer, "The people gather as though King George was passing the streets." He was confined in the jail of the city, and a few days after was tried and condemned as a spy. The paper in cipher found on him proved to be a despatch from the British commander in Canada to Sir Henry Clinton, then holding New York. On the first of April, 1782, this bold and accomplished villain paid the penalty of his perfidy and treason, being hung that day on the Capitol hill.

And here let us record to the shame of the American Republic the disgraceful fact that among the bountiful provisions she afterwards made for the faithful soldiers of her Army of Independence, these brave and incorruptible young men never received anything for their invaluable service in arresting this subtle, dangerous and terrible marauder. While the captors of Andre were rewarded by the distinguished and well merited encomiums of Congress, and decorated with a special token of the nation's approval of their noble conduct, together with a substantial bounty for their service; and their names and achievements entablatured in enduring marble, handed down in grateful recollection to posterity, these equally heroic young men, the achievers of a deed of equal importance to their country and honor to themselves, were suffered to go down to an old age of poverty, and to sink into unnoticed and unhonored graves. Notwithstanding a large reward had been offered for the capture of Bettys, they never received a penny of it, and the only pecuniary benefit they derived from their noble and disinterested service was the sum of *twenty-five dollars,* the proceeds of the sale of the gun and pistols of their prisoner, which they were compelled to part with to defray the necessary expenses of their journey to and from Albany. Shame on the ingratitude of the Nation! Let the descendants of those hardy pioneers who first entered the wilderness of Saratoga county, and the children of those patriots who suffered so cruelly from the hands of the notorious Bettys see to it that tardy justice is done to the memory of these four brave men! Let monumental honors mark the scene of their heroic exploit.

The capture of Bettys being made known to the Committee of Safety, it was determined to keep it secret for a time. Knowing the habits of the man it was suspected that his presence in this part of the country was not alone, and that some plot was fomenting among the tories which would ere long develop the appearance of other emissaries. In the neighborhood of Major Mitchell dwelt a widow, Mrs. Van Camp, who had a son in the British service, and who had long been suspected of concealing spies, and traitorous correspondence. The Major ordered a strict watch to be kept upon her premises, and strong suspicions being excited that some one was in concealment there, he commissioned Kenneth Gordon and one Sweetman to search the house. Widow Van Camp was at first highly indignant that her neighbors should suspect her of such questionable conduct, and resolutely denied having any one secreted about the house. But just then the ominous clicking of gun-locks up-stairs gave contradiction to the widow's assertion. Gordon gave the concealed party five minutes in which to surrender, and swore if they did not in that time, he would smoke them out. Fearing the house would be burned over them they gave themselves up. They turned out to be young Van Camp and Jonathan Miller, the latter a noted tory formerly of that vicinity. They were taken before Mitchell, and with them Obadiah Miller, a brother, who lived where Thomas Smith[13] now does. It was clearly

[13]Now the residence of William Tuper.

shown they came with Bettys from Canada; that they had been engaged in most of the outrages perpetrated by him upon the settlement, and that at the time they were engaged in planning fresh mischiefs against the patriots. They were sent to Albany and there kept in confinement until the close of the war. Thus after the capture of the arch-traitor Bettys was the terrible gang dispersed and the settlement relieved from further alarm.

We have detailed these events with minuteness, because as yet they seem to have escaped the eye of the historians of that period, and in themselves are worthy of preservation as honorable memorials of the trials and sufferings of our ancestors.

GENERAL GORDON'S MEMORANDUM.

The following is copied from a manuscript in the handwriting of General James Gordon. It is endorsed "A journal from the time I was taken until my arrival at Montreal." It is now (1858) in the possession of Hon. George G. Scott:

"On Tuesday, the 17th of October, 1780, about one o'clock in the morning, I was taken by a party consisting of about two hundred men, composed of part of Sir John Johnson's Corps, some Rangers and Indians, under the command of Capt. Munro. John Parlow, two of my negro men and one of my wenches were taken at the same time. Capt. Collins and his wench, John Davis, Thomas Barnum, Elisha Benedict and his three sons Caleb, Elias and Felix, also his negro man; Edward A. Watrous,[1] Paul Pierson and his sons John, ———, ———, John Higby and his son Lewis, George Kennedy, Jabez Patchen, Josiah Hollister, Ebenezer Sprague, Senr., and his sons John and Elijah, Thomas Kennedy, Enoch Wood and ——— Palmatier, were also taken by the party, who on leaving my house came by the main road out of the settlement. Isaac Stow in attempting his escape was killed. After crossing the Kayaderosseras, the party halted, and Capt. Munro desired Capt. John, of the Indians, to choose what prisoners he thought proper out of those who were taken, except myself. He accordingly chose Capt. Benedict and his three sons, Thomas Barnum, ——— Palmatier, John Higby and his son Lewis, and Elijah Sprague; also my negro man Nero. John Parlow[2] they did not consider as a prisoner, but much against their inclination they kept him with them all the way after the first night.

"Capt. Munro permitted Ebenezer Sprague, Paul Pierson and his young son, and George Kennedy to return home on Wednesday morning, by whom I had an opportunity of sending a short note to Mrs. Gordon.

"Nothing material happened until our arrival at Crown Point on Tuesday, the 24th, where we joined Major Carlton's party—there was however a considerable scarcity of provisions amongst the white people on the march. On Wednesday morning we all embarked in boats and proceeded as far as Mill Bay, about eight miles down the Lake—the prisoners, except those with the Indians all night confined on a small island in the bay.

Thursday morning the party embarked in their boats, and the vessels got under sail to proceed, as was supposed, for St. Johns, but had gone but a little way when they were met by an express with dispatches for Major Carlton, on which the whole party returned to the Bay from whence they set out. Captain Munro detained me to breakfast with him and some other officers. Capt. W. Frazier called and gave me an invitation to his place, with whom I dined, and on my way thither had a drink of grog with my old acquaintance (formerly Capt.) now Major James Rogers. In the afternoon I and the other prisoners were again sent to the desolate Island, and towards evening a boat came and took us all on board the Carlton, where we had been but a short time until Commodore Chambers came on board. Capt. Collins and I were then called up to the cabin, and there joined Capt. Sherwood, Lieut. Kane and Ensign Stevens, three other prisoners. The Commodore told us we were to remain in the cabin and fare the same as the officers belonging to the vessel, whilst we remained on board, provided we made no bad use of the indulgence allowed us. Captain Chipman being permitted to return home on his parol I had an opportunity of writing to Mrs. Gordon by him.

"Oct. 27th. The Carlton got under way pretty early, and having a fine breeze all day, we would have reached the Isle Aux Noix before dark had we not got aground about 4 o'clock a little below Point * * * however, we soon got off and came to an anchor a few miles below the aforementioned Island about dark.

"28th. A head wind. However we got within sight of the Island.

"29th. The captain took all the prisoners in his yawl and a large batteaux down to St. Johns, where we were put on board the Royal George all night.

"The next day an officer and party conducted us to Chambly, where we met with Col. Campbell, Col. Statea, Capt. Wood and two other officers, who with a great deal of cordiality urged us to partake of their small pittance and homely accommodations for that night.

"The day after being the 31st, in the evening we reached Montreal, where we were lodged in two rooms,[3] and as these were none of the largest, we

[1]While confined in Montreal, the prisoners were compelled to work, and were permitted to choose their occupation. Mr. Watrous went to work at cabinet-making, and during his three years' imprisonment became an expert workman. After his return to his home at the close of the war, he displayed his newly acquired skill as a mechanic by making some fine furniture for his home.

[2]Parlow was a Canadian boy—a servant of Gordon.

[3]This was in the Recollet Convent.

were pretty much thronged, being (together with those who were there before us) sixty-five souls.

"Nov. 1. About 1 o'clock Mr. Robert Ellice,[4] to whom I had wrote, came to our place of confinement, accompanied by Captain Jones, the Provost Martial, who informed me that through his (Mr. Ellice's) intercession with Brigadier General McLean, I was at liberty to go home with him. I remained in his house until Monday, the 6th, when I transported my small moveables to Monsieur Lanson's, where I got a small bed-room, and boarded at Mr. Levy's. On Tuesday, the 14th of November, Mr. Ellice procured ————'s enlargement, who the same evening began to work at Mr. Levy's at making up cans of tobacco.

MRS. WALLER'S STORY.

Mrs. Melinda Waller's account of the "Burning of Ballstown" on the 16th of October, 1780. Being memoranda of a conversation with that lady by Hon. George G. Scott, September 10, 1846. Mrs. Waller was a daughter of General James Gordon:

"The night Ballston was burned was the sixteenth of October, 1780, Monday. The main body first halted at Gordon's. Five or six went on to Collins', and as many more to Stow's. Mrs. Waller says:

"I was then nearly four years old, and my father, mother and myself slept in the same bed, in the room on the south side of the house—the room was the whole depth of the house with a window in the east and west end. That night before retiring my mother had entreated my father to go over to Grandfather Ball's and stay, and to leave her as she was not afraid of being injured. A hint had been conveyed through some friendly tory source that he was in danger. He refused, saying he would not be so cowardly as to go off and leave his wife and child. These were the last words he uttered before the enemy arrived.

"We were awakened by the breaking of both the windows in the room, and looking up saw a number of muskets with bayonets protruding into the room. My father arose and in his shirt went to the hall door, and opening it he found the hall filled with armed men and Indians. As he opened it a large Indian lifted his tomahawk and as it was descending, his arm was caught by Munro or Frazer, I forget which. My father was acquainted with both, and had befriended them. He was then led out of the door and put under guard. One Langdon had charge of him.

"The Indians, male and female, both were along, commenced pillaging. They took every article of clothing they could find. My father sent word for his clothes, but they were already secured. He stood shivering in the cold, and Langdon took out of his knapsack a blanket coat and gave it to him. My mother was obliged to borrow from one of the blacks some articles of clothing, as she had nothing of her own left. My father seeing Stow lay dead as he was marched along got permission to send back one of the servants under guard, with a message to mother to go immediately to her father's, as he was afraid some stragglers would return. She had just returned from the kitchen when she found a straw bed on fire and a fire-brand thrust into it. She extinguished the fire. The guard who came back with the message discovered "Liz," who had just returned from the cornfield. He exclaimed, 'You huzzy, why are you not along with the rest of the company?' Mother in reply asked him if he was so barbarous as to take a naked woman along. He told 'Liz' to find some clothes and put them on in a hurry. 'Liz' stepped out of the room, but did not return in time to go along.

"I recollect of being in my father's arms out of the door in the moonlight, when he stood under the charge of Langdon. I recollect awakening some time afterwards by the side of a log heap, in company with my mother and 'Liz,' where they had hid themselves.

"When the prisoners were assorted above the Kayaderosseras, and Major Munro had given his bloody orders, they marched along in Indian file, each prisoner placed between two of the enemy. My father afterwards told me that the second man in front of him was Captain Collins, then a British soldier, then my father, and immediately behind him a strapping Indian, whether it was the same one who attempted to tomahawk him at the house I am not certain. My father heard the soldier in front of him (he was a German somewhat in years) say to Captain Collins, 'I have been through all the wars in Europe and in a great many battles, but I have never before heard of such bloody orders as these. I can kill in the heat of battle, but cannot be made to murder in cold blood. You need not fear me, for I will not obey the orders. But that Indian behind is thirsting for Gordon's blood, and the moment a gun is fired Gordon is a dead man.' My father assured me, as may well be imagined, that he expected the tomahawk in his head every moment during the whole day.

"At Montreal the prisoners on the first night were lodged in the Recollet Convent, a very filthy place. The next morning my father was covered with vermin. James, Robert and Sanders Ellice, three brothers, tories, one or more of whom had formerly lived in Schenectady, and were Indian traders, and with whom my father was well acquainted, now lived in Montreal. My father the next morning sent for James Ellice, who bailed him out of prison for three thousand pounds, and he stayed at his house afterwards. But Ellice having at his house much company, all hostile to the American cause, my father explaining to Ellice the reason, left his house and boarded with a Jew named Levy. Soon afterwards, for some cause which he could never ascertain, he was transferred to Quebec and confined in the 'Provo.' Here he remained several months in close confinement. He was furnished with books and writing materials, and wrote out the translation of a French work, the manuscript of which I now have. He was subsequently re-

[4]Ellice and Gordon had been formerly connected in trade at Schenectady.

moved to the Isle of Orleans, where he found Judge White, the two Banta's, Enoch Wood, John Higby, Cassidy, and Cozzo, a Frenchman, and another person whose name I forget. He had occasionally drawn on Ellice for money which was fully paid. He saved the most of it, which (being gold) was concealed about his person. On the island they were put upon their parol, but confined at night. At this they remonstrated, but to no purpose. Believing their parol was not in force during confinement, they escaped by night by means of a fisherman's boat, which they took without being able to compensate the owner.

"Before reaching a settlement in Maine they had for several days gone without victuals. My father, famished and weak, gave out and lay down. The residue went on with an understanding that as soon as a settlement (which from indications they believed to be near) should be discovered, three guns should be fired. Soon after he heard the guns and was so excited that he sprang up and fell down three times in succession, in his haste to get there. The party soon returned and conducted him to the settlement. With their hatchets they constructed a raft on which they floated down the river (Kennebec). At one time the raft came in contact with some obstacle, by means of which my father was knocked into the river and sank to the bottom, but coming up near the hind end, was assisted on board. At another time during his starvation he ate of some berries which nearly occasioned his death. Some of the time they subsisted on a kind of muscle. They finally reached Passamaquoddy Bay, and thence went to Boston. Peace was established about the time they arrived home. The other prisoners after peace were taken to Halifax and thence to Boston."

THE GONZALEZ TRAGEDY.

In the spring of 1782, at Gonzalez's settlement—in the present town of Charlton, a deed of savage butchery was perpetrated that sent a thrill of horror and fear along this remote frontier. Joseph Gonzalez, before spoken of, with his eldest son, Emanuel, and his youngest, John, a lad about ten years old, and a hired laborer, were in the field building a fence. While engaged in the peaceful pursuit of their labor, they were surprised by a party of Tories and Indians, who undoubtedly had been secreted in the neighborhood some time, watching an opportunity to capture Gonzalez, as he was known to be an ardent Whig, whilst most of the Scotch settlers by whom he was surrounded, either observed a suspicious neutrality, or were in secret correspondence with the enemy. Supposing them to be a party of friendly Indians known to be in the neighborhood, the father Gonzalez frankly extended his hand in welcome. A powerful Indian, the leader, seized it with one hand, grasping it with great strength, while with his other, in which he carried a tomahawk concealed behind his back, he raised his murderous weapon and cleaved the old man's skull in twain.

While this bloody tragedy was enacting, several of the party grasped the elder son, with the intention of making him prisoner. Naturally endowed with great strength, he succeeded in escaping from them and ran for the house, which was at some distance, to procure arms and provide for the safety of the family. Two fences intervened. As he leaped the first his pursuers fired, one ball passing through his hand. At the second fence they fired again, and with fatal effect, a ball penetrating his heart, killing him instantly. Young John and the hired man were captured by the enemy. At the house were two other sons, David and Joseph, who, hearing the fray, and seeing the brutal murder of their father and brother, and incapable of making resistance to such overpowering numbers, fled with their mother and sister to the woods, and by lonely paths sought the residence of Captain Swart, on the Mohawk.

Who can picture the grief and horror of that hapless family as they flew on the wings of fear through those secret forest paths, with the bloody vision of the butchery of the venerable husband and father still red before them, and the death shriek of his pride and eldest born yet ringing in their ears; while their wild imaginings drew horrid views of the sufferings of their youngest, the joy of that lonely frontier household, as they thought of his probable fate, an unresisting victim, upon whom the enemy might then be glutting his wanton malice and barbarous hate.

Reaching the friendly roof of Swart, and rehearsing their piteous tale to him, he hastily summoned his neighbors to pursue and execute vengeance. Fearful of the surprise of their own homes that night, they refused to proceed until morning. Nothing daunted, the brave Swart, accompanied by David Gonzalez, set forth for the scene of the fearful tragedy, wending their perilous way through the swamp and gloomy forest of what then and now is known as "Wolf Hollow." Sus-

pecting the Indians were still at the house, Swart left David some distance behind and advanced silently and cautiously toward the "clearing." Hearing a noise and supposing it to proceed from the enemy, he crawled upon his hands and knees towards some object he saw disturbing some bushes near the house. Raising his rifle he was about to fire, when he ascertained it was a horse which somehow had escaped the notice of the enemy. But this circumstance shows the indomitable courage of the man. Alone, and in the presence as he supposed of a powerful force, who had already shown themselves capable of the most savage and wanton cruelty, he did not hesitate to engage them single-handed in his desperate desire for revenge. Finding the enemy had retired, he summoned David, and the two surveyed the premises. They found the bodies of the father and son scalped and otherwise mutilated in a most barbarous manner. The house had been plundered of its valuables, and the morning light revealed a scene of ruthless murder and pillage, where once had existed a peaceful and thrifty home.

As soon as it was light the family, accompanied by Swart's tardy militiamen, returned to their now desolate dwelling, and mournfully burying the mangled remains of their neighbors and kin, the Captain and his party started in pursuit of the enemy, to recapture the youngest boy and hired man, whom it was evident they had carried with them. For two weary days the pursuers followed the trail through the northern wilderness, when a heavy rain coming on they lost it, and were compelled to return unsuccessful.

The enemy, after scalping and mutilating the dead, and plundering the dwelling, securely pinioned John and the hired man together, and began a hurried march northward. It was in the early Spring, the commencement of warm days and cold, frosty nights. Being surprised while at work they were without adequate clothing to protect them from the sudden changes and inclemencies of the season. At night, with their hands and feet pinioned, they were compelled to lie down in their shirt-sleeves upon the bare ground, while their guards lay near, wrapped in comfortable blankets. In the mornings, after long nights of freezing torture, they frequently found it impossible to rise owing to their hair and scanty clothing being frozen to the damp earth under them. The entrails and refuse of the game their captors shot along the way, was the only food wherewith they sustained their weary limbs; nor did they taste bread until they had nearly reached St. Johns, when a squaw gave them some dirty Indian cake, which, black and hard as it was, John Gonzalez to the day of his death insisted was the sweetest morsel that ever passed his lips.

After a toilsome march, half famished, they reached St. Johns; having along their route been joined by other parties, who had been out on the same bloody service, and now returned bearing booty, prisoners, and the scalps of murdered victims. On entering the fort, young John was compelled to bear aloft on a pole, the blood-smeared scalps of his butchered father and brother, the trophies of this savage foray; and here the British officials paid the bounty to the Indians for these bloody evidences of their barbarity, and took charge of the prisoners.

The sergeant of the guard to whom John was consigned, in entering his name, ignorant of its orthography, spelled it "Consalus." Being young at this time, and after his long captivity never being united to his family, John became accustomed to this spelling and retained it. Here he was separated from the hired man and never again heard from him. The boy was held captive until the close of the war, and most of the time was employed in manufacturing cartridges to be used against his countrymen. He afterwards said he took good care that none of those he made should do any damage. Being released, he returned to his former happy home only to find it deserted and his relatives scattered, he knew not whither. He finally settled on the place where his son, Emanuel Consalus now lives, and continued to reside there until October 7th, 1823, when he died.

By such acts as this was the war brought to the very doors of the pioneer settlers, and constant apprehension and fear marked their daily life. They redoubled their precautions against surprises, and kept a more careful watch upon the movements of the disaffected in their midst. With the close of the war these barbarous atrocities ceased, the Gonzalez tragedy being the last of the treacherous murders of the Tories and Indians in this region.

THE TORY, BANTA.

On the approach of Burgoyne's army in the summer of '77, numerous evidences showed the existence of treasonable practices and conspiracies in the midst of the Balls-Town settlement, and prompt and decisive measures were instantly adopted to ferret out and bring to punishment the tories. The torch of the incendiary was oftentimes applied to the buildings of prominent Whigs in the dead of night, and the bullet, fired from the corner of the adjoining wood by the lurking assassin, frequently whistled by the laboring patriot as he pursued his toil. To prevent these murderous alarms, and avenge these bloody wrongs, became the first and dominant duty of the Committee of Public Safety.

The first extreme measure on the part of the Committee was in the case of one Banta, a tory. This man resided on the east shore of Long Lake and was the only one of a large family who espoused the cause of the Crown, his two brothers being ardent and devoted patriots. The oath of allegiance had been repeatedly tendered him by the Committee and as often evaded. He accordingly fell under suspicion, and his movements were carefully watched. About the time Burgoyne was at Fort Ann with his invading army, eluding the vigilance of his patriot neighbors, Banta and a number of other tories suddenly disappeared from the settlement one night, driving off large quantities of stock belonging to Whigs. This movement developed a widespread tory sentiment, and could only have been effected by a co-operating force of the enemy concealed in the vicinity. Alarmed at its boldness and secrecy, pursuit was immediately made for the recapture of the stock and the punishment of the conspirators. After following their trail to the immediate vicinity of Burgoyne's army, the pursuers returned unsuccessful, but determined should opportunity offer, to execute vengeance upon their recreant neighbors. A constant watch was kept upon the deserted houses of the refugees, for the purpose of securing their persons should they again return.

RESIDENCE BUILT BY REV. EDWARD DAVIS, ABOUT 1830, ON SITE OF HOME OF BERIAH PALMER.

At length, a short time after Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga, the guard secreted near Banta's house, early one morning, while it was yet dark, was surprised by the appearance of a light in the windows. He repaired in all haste to the Fort near Mr. Ball's, announcing the fact, and the members of the Committee were immediately summoned. Beriah Palmer, with a squad of men from the Fort, surrounded the house and demanded admittance. Banta, for it was he, protruding his head from a window in the loft of the cabin, at first refused to unbar his door, and denied his complicity with the acts with which he was charged, and their right to molest him. Maddened by the effrontery of the man, Judge Palmer, producing his watch, gave him one

minute in which to open his door, denouncing him at the same time as a traitor and thief. Seeing that escape was hopeless, Banta gave them admittance, and he was secured.

In the early dawn of that October morning this patriot band, surrounding their prisoner, marched from the scene of the capture to the residence of Palmer, where the Committee had been hastily summoned to meet. As they passed through the settlement, the news of the capture of this disturber of their security aroused the yet sleeping occupants of the cabins along the route, and anxious to see merited justice done for his treason and robbery, the population followed *en masse* to the scene of his trial. Arrived at Palmer's the Committee formed in a circle around Banta, on the green by the roadside. Moody and sullen, he refused to explain his conduct or palliate his offence. His crimes were notorious. They needed no proof. He had openly sought the camp of the enemy, and as openly fought in his ranks at the bloody battle of Saratoga, where, overtaken by defeat, he had skulked back to the neighborhood of those whom he had so treacherously despoiled and betrayed, to plot, as they had just reason to fear, new mischief against their security, and to again abet their enemies should occasion offer. Then too, he had robbed them of their hard-earned property, and with his ill-gotten booty had made large gains by selling it for British gold. As these things, and the bloody memory of the sad fate of Jennie McCrea forced themselves upon the minds of the anxious crowd surrounding the prisoner, loud murmurs of contempt and hatred arose, in which he could only read his doom.

At last Judge Palmer put the question that was to settle his fate: "What punishment shall the prisoner suffer?" One by one each member of the Committee answered his turn, as the question went slowly around that fatal circle, "Death;" and the unflinching chairman confirmed their dread sentence by ordering his immediate execution. Forthwith long rails were taken from the adjacent fence by stalwart arms and lashed together, the doomed man pinioned, the rope adjusted; and as the morning sun rose over the eastern hills, dispelling the autumn mists that overhung the scene, the tory Banta swung a lifeless clod on this improvised gibbet. The scene of this execution is said to have been the roadside near the turn of the highway where the Rev. Edward Davis now lives;[1] the time October, 1777, shortly after the battle of Saratoga.

There has been some doubt thrown on this incident, and we can in reply only give our authority. The account as given to us came from Judiah Ellsworth, who received it from Seth C. Baldwin, sheriff of the county from 1801 to 1804, and its second clerk, holding that office from 1804 to 1813.

[1]The residence in late years of S. Wakeman Buel.

Town of Milton

By JOHN C. BOOTH

AT the session of the Legislature in 1792 three new towns were organized out of the large township of Balls-Town. All the territory lying north of the present north line of that township was erected into a town named "Milton."

This name, so common as a township cognomen, and in most instances adopted in honor of the great bard of England, who sang "of man's fall," in this case had a more indigenous and matter-of-fact origin. Shortly after the settlement of Balls-Town, Gen. Gordon, who was one of the first settlers, and a great speculator in mill privileges, had erected a mill on the Kayaderosseras Creek, at Milton Centre, where the present mill stands, and also one on the same stream, afterward known as Merrick's Mills, at what is now Factory Village. A considerable settlement was early made in the neighborhood of these mills, and to distinguish it from Mr. Ball's community near Long Lake, the early inhabitants were wont to call it Mill-town, which, at the official christening of the town was contracted into the more euphonious and classical appellation—"Milton."

That part of old Balls-Town known as Milton was first settled about 1772-73, along the continuation of the "middle line" road. David Wood[1] is said to have been the first settler, locating near what is now known as Milton Hill. George Kennedy, one of the three Kennedy brothers previously mentioned, located on the farm next above George Scott. Where Hiram Wood now lives one Jabez Patchin and his son-in-law, Enos Morehouse, resided.[2] Near by, to the north, a family of Hollisters located; and where the late Judge Thompson resided was cleared and settled by Ebenezer Sprague. Opposite Nathaniel Mann's present residence John Kennedy set up his household gods. Enoch and Stephen Wood located on the land near where the Presbyterian Church afterwards stood, which has since been demolished. Joseph Shearer came about 1775, and located near West Milton. Beyond this, northward, at the time of the war, there was but one more clearing,[4] but we have been unable to obtain the name of the adventurous individual who had thus advanced to the out-

Middle Line Road, Milton.

[1]David Wood was the great-grandfather of David L. Wood, now a resident of Ballston Spa.

[2]Now the residence of Lanson B. Wiswall.

[4]Probably the "clearing" of John Bentley, who came here as early as 1775, and now known as the Bentley homestead, near the Stone church.

skirts of civilization. At this time, also, Gen. Gordon had erected a flouring mill on the Kayaderosseras at what is now Factory Village, which was then operated by one Merrick, and around it two or three families had gathered, the locality being known as "Merrick's Mills." This, with the few Scotch families south of what is now known as "Speir's Corners,"[3] on "Paisley Street," was the extent of the settlement in Milton at the time of the Revolution.

since developed. Footpaths only marked the way from the settlements on the "middle line" and at Merrick's Mills, through the dense forests of pine and hemlock that surrounded the springs; while the rude road which Sir William Johnson "blazed" from Long Lake, northward, was the only evidence of the former presence of civilized man in these parts.

Mr. Booth's history of Milton closes at this point.

ALONG THE KAYADEROSSERAS, MILTON.

No one had yet been bold enough to establish his habitation within the limits of the present village of Ballston Spa, nor its immediate vicinity. The first immigrants to this section were essentially an agricultural people, and the land adjacent to the Springs presented little to entice the farmer to locate there. The Kayaderosseras bottom, where the village now stands, was then a dreary hemlock swamp, and to the new settler offered no hope of the future value of the locality which the Springs and the valuable water power of that stream has

[3]West Milton.

Soon after the close of the Revolution, came Sanbun Ford from Sand Lake and settled at Speir's Corners. He had served throughout the seven years of the war, being present at Bunker Hill, and also at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He kept a public house for many years on the "middle line," near Judge Thompson's. His sons were John S., (who lived to an advanced age, his home being in Ballston Spa, and who was familiarly known as "Bony" Ford), Simeon, William and Amaziah. One of his daughters was the mother of John B. McLean, for many years deputy County Clerk.

N. B. Sylvester, in his history of Saratoga County, says: "Sanbun Ford once captured a 'cow-boy,' compelling his enemy to put his finger into the barrel of a loaded pistol and follow him into camp. In after-years he delighted to recall the scenes of the Revolution, and was wont on each returning Fourth of July to gather the old soldiers around him to dinner. In his last years he was an active religious worker. He then called the Bible his side-arms, and carried the book in a velvet bag. At his request there was buried with him the flag, the Bible, and his commission as an officer of the Revolutionary army."

Justus Jennings, another Revolutionary soldier, came at this time. His brother, Edmund, had settled here in 1775, and Justus settled about a mile north, both being near what is known as Hop City.

Other settlers of this period were Elisha Powell, who located on the "middle line," at Milton Hill; Abel Whalen, who came from Sand Lake, and settled near Robert Speir's, the place in early days being known as Whalen's Corners, and later as Clute's Corners. He had two sons, Abel and Ezekiel, the latter being a well-known merchant for many years. Joel Mann, Jonathan Morey, Henry Fillmore, Silas Adams, William Johnson, Benjamin Grenell, Joel Keeler and Henry Frink were also among the early settlers.

John Lee came from Danbury, Connecticut, in 1793, with his wife and six children, Elias, Joel, William, Noah, Abigail and Ruth. He settled west of Rock City Falls, in the Grenell neighborhood. Elias and Joel purchased farms in Ballston, just south of the town line, and having married, removed to their new purchase. Joel Lee afterward settled in the village of Ballston Spa, and was for nearly fifty years a prominent merchant, and postmaster for forty years. Elias Lee was the first pastor of the Baptist church in Ballston Spa.

Many of the earliest settlers of Milton are mentioned in the history of the town of Ballston.

In the Museum in the High School building may be seen an old tax roll of the town of Milton for the year 1809. Joel Lee and Isaac Rowland were the assessors. The roll is in the handwriting of Joel Lee, and contains three hundred and fifty-three names.

Among the leading men of the town during the last fifty years, who resided outside the village, the author recalls Robert Speir and John A. Clute, general merchants at Speir's Corners, and Clute's Corners, the two hamlets having the post-office name of West Milton; Hermon Thomas, William Wilson, Hiram Wood, Jonathan Whiting, Chauncey Kilmer, Isaac Frink, George W. Taylor, Adam Cipperly, William N. Seeley, Abram Wood, Henry Wiswall, Nathaniel Mann, Hiram W. Wood, Manly James, Frederick Streever, Jacob Adams, Rensselaer Ketchum, Benjamin Hutchins, David Frisbie, Dr. Truman E. Parkman, Harlow Van Ostrand, William T. Arnold, Paul Settle, A. G. Waring and John A. Wakeman.

Early settlers who occupied official positions in the town were: Elisha Powell, Supervisor in 1795-6, 1805-6-7-8, and Member of Assembly in 1818-20; Joel Keeler, Supervisor for seven years, and Member of Assembly in 1812 and again in 1819; John Thompson, first Judge of Common Pleas in 1818; Ezekiel Whalen, Town Clerk from 1799 to 1808. Others are mentioned in the history of Ballston Spa.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

To the village of Ballston Spa the greater part of this history is devoted. The village lies in the towns of Milton and Ballston, almost the entire business section being in Milton, as well as about two-thirds of the population.

Bloodville is practically a part of Ballston Spa, although it is not within the corporate limits. It derives its name from Isaiah Blood, who built his large axe and scythe works on the Kayaderosseras at this point, and the hamlet was inhabited almost exclusively by the workmen in these shops. Deserving of a place in history is the fact that very many, if not by far the largest number of the residences were built with money furnished his workmen by Mr. Blood. He encouraged his men to own their homes, and would deed the land and build such houses as might be desired, and allow the men to pay him as they could out of their wages, charging a low rate of interest, and in many instances donating the interest, in case of illness or other untoward circumstances. Mr. Blood was interested in the wel-

fare of his employees, and a "strike" was never known for the nearly half century of his conduct of the business.

FACTORY VILLAGE is a half mile north of Bloodville, and in early days was known as Merrick's Mills. Some years ago there were three paper mills at this place; the Chauncey H. Cook mill, later operated by Jones & Settle; the mill of John McLean, and the mill of Bennett & Beecher. This mill and the Cook mill were destroyed by fire. The McLean mill, saw-mill, stores, hotel, and a Mission Chapel of Christ Church were located here. The tannery was destroyed by fire, and the business removed to Ballston Spa. A little later the hotel was burned; the grist-mill and saw-mill were abandoned, and the chapel and two or three houses are all that is left of the busy little settlement. It was at this point that General James Gordon built one of his grist-mills, soon after the Revolution.

WEST MILTON, five miles from Ballston

"THE MAPLES," BLOODVILLE. HOME OF ISAIAH BLOOD NOW THE HOME OF HIS GRAND-SON, WM. H. KNICKERBACKER.

mill is now owned and operated by the National Paper Box Manufacturing Company, Mr. Charles P. Rooney, manager. The Presbyterian Society of Ballston Spa have a chapel here, in which a Sunday School is maintained, with occasional preaching services. The chapel was a gift from John McLean. There is also a public school.

CRANEVILLE is a little farther up the stream, and took its name from Lindley Murray Crane, who lived here for many years, and was proprietor of the paper mill now known as the Eagle Mill.

MILTON CENTRE is at the point where the Middle Line road crosses the Kayaderosseras. Twenty-five years ago this was a prosperous hamlet. A post-office, a large tannery, a grist-

Spa, consists of two small hamlets on either side of the Kayaderosseras, locally known as Spier's Corners and Clute's Corners. Fifty years ago this was a thriving village, with its hotels; the Presbyterian Church; the large general stores of Robert Speir and John A. Clute; the district school; the Ladies' Seminary and Day School of Mrs. Young; saw and grist-mills; carriage and harness shops; shoe shops and tailoring establishments, and a population of about three hundred. The Pioneer paper mill, just beyond the village limits was operated by Coe S. Buchanan, and later by Elisha Comstock. The paper mill is still in existence, but most of the other business has gradually disappeared. The Presbyterian Church, the public school, the hotel,

a saw-mill and one or two small stores remain, the present population being about two hundred.

Rock City Falls, two miles farther up the valley, is a pretty village, with a population of about four hundred. It has several stores, two hotels, a public school, two churches—the Methodist and Catholic, and three paper-mills. The first paper-mill was built in 1840 by Rowland & Kilmer. It stood on the site in later years occupied by the Excelsior Mill of coming a thriving village. The store of Elisha Powell, at one time selling more goods than any other country store in the county, was located here. There were two churches, the Presbyterian, and St. James' Episcopal, and a district school. In later years the churches united with those in Ballston Spa, Powell's store was closed, and other business enterprises were attracted to the county seat and the villages above. George B. Powell, a son of Elisha Powell, was Sheriff of the county.

A TROUT BROOK, MILTON.

George West, who also built the Empire Mill. The mill known as the "Big Falls Mill," was for many years owned by the late Chauncey Kilmer, and was the second mill in the United States to manufacture paper from straw. The entire product of this mill was sold to the New York Sun until the mill was sold by Mr. Kilmer to New York parties some years ago. Since then the mill has been used for the manufacturing of various kinds of paper, and has recently begun the manufacture of straw board. The two mills known as the West mills, are now owned and operated by the E. M. Brown Paper Company.

Milton Hill, for twenty-five years succeeding the Revolution, gave promise of be-

Rowland's Mills, a small hamlet in the northeastern part of the town, was named from the saw and grist-mills of H. R. Rowland, situated on one of the branches of the Kayaderosseras. There are also quite extensive quarries of blue stone at this place.

CHURCHES.

St. James (Episcopal) was organized by Rev. Ammi Rogers in 1796. The first vestry was James Henderson, David Roberts, wardens; Abel Whalen, William Bolt, Joel Mann, Hugh McGinness, William Johnston, Henry Whitlock, John Ashton, Thomas Shepherd, vestrymen. In 1845 services of the parish were discontinued, and the members united with Christ Church at Ballston Spa.

"The Presbyterian Society of Milton, in the town of Ballston," was organized June 2, 1791. The first trustees were William Williamson, Ebenezer Couch, Benajah Smith, Silas Adams, Stephen Wood and Esquire Patchin. The meeting-house was at Milton Hill. The society was dissolved about 1840, the members uniting with the churches at West Milton and Ballston Spa.

The Baptist Society, known as "The Stone Church," was organized in 1793. A lot for a church site was bought in 1801, and was deeded to John Bentley, Silas Adams, Daniel Green, Salmon Child and Reuben Weed. The first meeting-house was built of wood the same year. In 1826 the present substantial stone building, one of the landmarks of the town, was erected on the same site. Services have been maintained to the present time, the pastor now, and for many years past, being the Rev. Asher Cook.

The Presbyterian Church at West Milton was established by the Scotch emigrants who came to Milton and Ballston during or soon after the Revolution, and settled on what was known as Paisley street. The first meeting-house was located a mile and a half west of Speir's Corners. It was abandoned in 1840, and the present edifice was erected at Speir's Corners. The first elders were John Wilson, Alexander Glen, John Burns, Joseph Shearer and Alexander Donnan. The church has a fine large parsonage, and adjoining the church lot on the west is the village cemetery.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Rock City Falls was instituted in 1844. The first trustees were Seth Whalen, Charles R. Lewis, Joshua Swan, James McIntosh and Harlow Kilmer. The meeting-house was erected in 1844. This house of worship was the successor of an earlier one erected at Swan's Corners in 1811.

"The Church of St. Paul, of Rock City Falls," Catholic, was instituted in 1874. The church edifice is in the upper part of the village, and was dedicated by Bishop McNerney in 1877, Father Havermans preaching the sermon.

EASTERN NEW YORK RAILROAD, MILTON.

Spafford's Gazetteer of New York State, published in 1813, says: "Milton has eight grain-mills, fourteen saw-mills, four fulling mills, four carding machines, an extensive woolen factory, and two forges for making bar iron."

Milton is one of the principal manufacturing towns of the county. The Eastern New York Railroad, originally known as the "Ballston Terminal Railroad," an electric road, runs from Ballston Spa to Middle Grove, following the valley of the Kayaderosseras. The road handles all the freight of mills along the stream, running its cars to the doors of each mill. The road traverses a very beautiful region.

Additional facts relating to Milton, its prominent men and its numerous manufacturing industries, are given in the history of the village of Ballston Spa.

Village of Ballston Spa

THE village of Ballston Spa is the County Seat of Saratoga County, and was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature March 21, 1807. The village lies in the towns of Ballston and Milton, at the "great bend" of the Kayaderosseras river, in the "valley of the crooked stream." Its name is derived from Rev. Eliphalet Ball, one of the earliest settlers in the town of Ballston, with the addition of "Spa" from a town in Belgium which was a famous watering place as early as the seventeenth century. High street is the dividing line between the towns of Milton and Ballston, the town line running from east to west, about where the curbing on the south side of the street stands.

THE FIRST SETTLER.

Curious as it may seem, no mention has been made of the first white man who settled within the present limits of the village, in any of the histories of this locality which have heretofore been published. Among those who came to settle in Balls-Town at the close of the Revolution, was Jonathan Peckham, from Rhode Island. He was the grandfather of James F. Peckham, one of Ballston's oldest residents, who lives at the corner of Church avenue and McMaster street. Jonathan Peckham purchased a tract of land in 1783, made a "clearing," and built his log cabin home the same year, where the house of Hon. H. J. Donaldson now stands, on Pleasant street. In 1787 Mr. Peckham built the small frame house now occupied by the Misses O'Hare, on Church avenue, and removed from his cabin to this more pretentious abode. This house is the oldest building in the village, and its builder was the first inhabitant of Ballston Spa. The "log cabin" of Mr. Peckham was a long distance from the spring, with the forest and an almost impassable swamp between.

THE SPRING.

From the time of the visit of Sir William Johnson in 1767, parties occasionally visited the spring. There is no record, however, of any settler in the immediate vicinity until nearly twenty years after the discovery of the spring by Beriah Palmer in 1770. No one built near the spring any structure larger than a temporary log hut for a summer camping place. A rude trough was dug out of a log near by, in which the spring water

The Peckham House, 1787.

was used for bathing purposes; and a gourd shell, hung on a tree, was the only convenience for drinking.

The discovery of this mineral spring soon became noised abroad, but it was not until 1787 that a settlement began to grow up about the Spring. During this period of twenty years the spring was much frequented by traveling parties, and the early settlers of the vicinity. It was in the dense forest, and became a favorite resort for camping parties, not only for the benefit to be derived from the mineral water, but for the excellent hunting and fishing which abounded in all this region.

The late Theodore Dwight, in his book,

FRONT STREET, BALLSTON SPA, IN 1838.

"Summer Tours, or Notes of a Traveller," gives an account of a visit to Ballston Spa, at which time he met Col. John Ball, son of Rev. Eliphalet Ball, from whom he received some interesting remininscences. Said Col. Ball:

"At the time of my father's first coming to Ballston, the low grounds near the Springs were covered with a forest, and the old Spring—the only one then known—was overflowed by the brook when it was much swollen by the rain. The deer used to come and lick at the Spring, and I have been there in my youth to ambush and shoot them. It was not uncommon then, to meet deer when looking for stray cattle; and the Indians often came from Oneida to hunt, in bodies of two or three hundred. No Indians, however, had their residence in this vicinity. My father, at an interview with Sir William Johnson, heard from him the particulars of the wound which he received at the battle of Lake George in 1755, which was in the front part of the thigh, and remained open until he died. I dined with him in a large marquee pitched on the level border of Ballston Lake. Near the same place was the log-cabin of the McDonalds, who had settled there about seven years before my father's arrival."

Mr. Dwight also gives an account of a visit of his mother to the springs at Saratoga and Ballston in 1789. She graphically described to her son the primitive conditions then existing. There were but three poor log houses at Saratoga, which afforded little more than a shelter. Mrs. Dwight says:

"We arrived on Saturday and left there on Monday for Ball's Town which we reached after a short ride. But there the accommodations for visitors were still less inviting. The springs, of which there were several, were entirely unprotected, on the borders of a woody swamp and near a brook in which we saw bubbles rising in several places, which indicated other springs. There was a small house into which some of the water was conducted for bathing, but, as there was nothing like comfort to be found, we proceeded homeward, after spending a short time at the place."

Mr. Booth has written most entertainingly of the early days in Ballston's history, and has very graphically described the life at the Springs in the olden time. His story follows:

VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA.

BY JOHN CHESTER BOOTH.

AMERICA'S FIRST WATERING PLACE.

Going back some years before the War of the Revolution, to a time when, as yet, the sound of the axe had not been heard north of good Dominie Ball's "clearing," let us note the history of Ballston Spa, and the settlement of that village. The principal route of communication between Albany and the north in those early times, was along the valley of the Hudson; consequently visitors to the Springs —and there were many even before the war —took that way to reach their destination. As far as the old settlement of Saratoga, (Schuylerville), they enjoyed the advantages of a traveled road and settled "clearings," and arriving at the mouth of Fish Creek, a well-defined Indian trail along its banks led them to the Lake, and thence to the wonderful spring a few miles to the westward. Or, freighting a light canoe, an uninterrupted water communication bore them to within a few miles of their destination. This well-known and comparatively easy means of access to the localities known under the general designation of "The Springs," left the Balls-Town settlers undisturbed and indifferent in regard to the existence and the value of the peculiar waters in their neighborhood; and indeed, for some years after Sir William Johnson's discovery, the "High Rock" fountain seems to have been the only one noticed by visitors.

THE SPRING.

In the year 1771, Beriah Palmer, engaged with a field party in sub-dividing the great lots in this allotment of the Kayaderosseras Patent, arrived on the hill now known as "High street," in the village of Ballston Spa. The party being thirsty, and espying the creek —now known as Gordon creek—as it flowed bright and sparkling out of the dark forest of hemlock and pines that then covered the adjacent bottom lands and hillsides, into the sunlight of the Indian "clearing," hurried down to its banks to drink. While strolling along its margin they came upon the ancient Indian spring[1] formerly visited by Sir William Johnson. Palmer made the first rude attempt to secure the spring from the inroad of the fresh water of the adjoining creek, by building around it, after removing the loose sand and forest debris that had gathered in its

[1]This was the spring afterward known as the "Public Well," and as the "Iron-railing Spring." It was situated at the west end of Front street, at the foot of the hill where Front intersects Charlton street, and about in the centre of Front street as now located and just west of the crosswalk. Front street originally turned to the northward at the railroad bridge, the roadway being north of the present Spring.

basin, a rough enclosure of logs, cementing the chinks with clay found near by.[2]

This was in the summer. During the fall of that year the locality was again visited. On the south-western shore of Saratoga Lake, in the year 1770, a man named Bousman had settled. The next year following he had in his employ, assisting him in clearing up his forest home, a half-breed Tuscarora, named Harry. Weary with the toilsome routine and laborious monotony of civilized life, and longing for the natural and untrammeled freedom of his ancestors, this descendant of the aborigines would frequently start off alone to the forest, and for weeks together absent himself from the haunts of the white man. Returning one day from one of these lonely and uncivilized excursions, he informed his employer that he had found a spring similar to the Saratoga water at the northward. The next day the Indian and young William Bousman, then a lad of some thirteen summers, took their guns and came out to the spring, which they found as Palmer left it.

It is said of the spring that the inhabitants were induced to trust to its peculiar virtues by the example of the deer of the forest, who had resorted to it in such numbers as to form beaten paths from every direction to the spot.

VISITORS ATTRACTED.

From the time of Palmer's visit may be dated the cause which induced the settlement of Ballston Spa. He was a man of social prominence and extensive acquaintance; and his connection as agent with the wealthy proprietors of this part of the Patent, served to spread a more exact knowledge of these medicinal waters in the cities of Albany and New York. Visitors now began to be attracted thither, stopping at the houses of the settlers three or four miles south of the springs; or, furnished with camp equipage, setting up their temporary abodes in the sylvan shades around the fountain. Such was the custom until 1787; and indeed after that, so limited

BALLSTON SPA IN 1815.

The picture is taken from in front of the old Douglas house. It shows the original spring, and immediately beyond it the McMaster house. To the left is Front street, and the buildings are 1, Ball House, 2 and 3, stores, 4, Clark's Inn, all burned in 1823, Mansion House, just behind the poplar trees, still standing, known as the "American." The buildings at the extreme left are barns, with the gable end of the factory beyond.

[2]One of this party was Epenetus White, Sr. He became a pioneer resident of the town of Ballston. Beriah Palmer also made his home in the new country.

were the accommodations, necessity compelled its continuance.

THE HOTELS.

In 1787 the grandfather and father of the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, the distinguished statesman, now (1858) United States Senator from Illinois, made the first bold move towards turning these waters into a source of profit. Heretofore the visitors had literally been "squatter sovereigns" of the locality,—leading a life of sylvan ease and independence, untrammeled by the forms of society, or the rights of proprietors. Now their wild-wood freedom was to be invaded by a regular owner of the soil, and their careless camp life mocked by an actual hotel with regular fare and charges.

The Douglases were from Stephentown. then in old Albany, now in Rensselaer county. They purchased a tract of one hundred acres on the west side of the creek, opposite the spring, and built a log house near the site of the present "Institute."[3] Here they boldly flung their sign to the breeze, and under their auspices the business of summer entertainment of visitors at the "Springs" was launched on "the full tide of successful experiment." Benajah Douglas, for such was the grandsire's name, did not startle the wilderness by any unwonted display. His accommodations were of the most primitive character—only such as the rudest frontier log cabin could offer. There were but two rooms to his domicile, one of which was devoted to domestic mysteries, while the other was generously surrendered to the use and enjoyment of the visitors to this famed "watering place." Think of it! ye who revel amid the gorgeous splendors and feast upon the tempting luxuries of the modern Saratoga! Such was the beginning of the mystery of keeping a "summer resort!" But then it was a simple forest spring, and not a Vanity Fair.

Prosperity blessed this undertaking, and the next year the enterprising Benajah extended his business, and enlarged his sheltering roof. Finding that many visitors preferred to act as their own commissaries rather than trust to his larder, and determined to turn an honest penny even by their fastidiousness, he built an addition to his hotel consisting of a framed building, having four rooms, which he rented to those who brought their own provisions. This certainly was a bold move in the right direction, and deserved and received substantial success. By this far-sighted movement, competitors were kept at a distance, and its proprietors for the next four years remained masters of the situation. True, one Micajah Benedict, envious of their success, yet not daring to dispute the field by an open fight on the coveted ground, did, during the time, build a small framed house about a mile south of the spring, on the land which now forms the point made by the junction of the two main south roads leading from the village.[4] This point at one time was a favorite tarrying place with summer visitors, and for years this house and another opposite, received a large share of public patronage.

Such covert attempts to entice away his custom, only aroused the Douglas to stronger efforts to maintain his supremacy; and accordingly he erected a large house in 1792, forty feet by thirty, without including a kitchen, which brought up the rear in a masterly and most substantial manner. This building yet stands, forming a part of the "Institute."

But the reign of this primitive host was soon to be contested by one who possessed ample means and requisite energy to successfully conduct the enterprise. Nicholas Low, of New York, son of Isaac Low, having succeeded in recovering a large portion of the lands formerly confiscated on account of his father's loyal proclivities, now set himself to redeem them from their wild and natural state. The year that Douglas built his grand hotel, Low erected another of the same dimensions close to the "Public Well," on the east. This was the house burned down a few years ago, the ruins of which mark the site, and known, from the family which latterly possessed it as the "McMaster House."[5]

THE VILLAGE.

Low was determined to found a town, and induced many people to purchase of him near the Spring. Among the residents at this time were the Tryon brothers, John, Wright and

[3]The house now known as "Brookside."

[4]Very generally known as "the V corners."

[5]The McMaster House stood at the southwest corner of Front and Court streets.

Salmon. John Tryon owned the property on the west of Ballston street, from High street to the Garrett road. Wright Tryon built a dwelling house on the hill, where Norman Becker now lives, opposite the cemetery.[6] On the corner of what are now High street and Ballston street, near the residence of Lebbeus Booth, Esq., was a small log tavern built by Salmon Tryon in 1787, to which he added in 1790 a small framed house, consisting of two rooms for boarders, and a store—the first in the place—for the retail of dry goods and groceries, and on Front street about where the railroad embankment stands, two or three log cabins decorated the scene.

James Merrill, a name familiar to all the old residents of the village, was the first landlord of Low's new hotel, and in 1794 built a small framed house to the south of it, for the purpose of renting it to families who preferred to provision themselves. That season, owing to the interest of Mr. Low in extending the fame of the water, the houses in the neighborhood were crowded with guests from New York, Hartford, Philadelphia, and even from the far off sunny South; many visitors from Cuba and other West India Islands that year inaugurating the annual summer "hegira" to the North, which, formerly at Ballston and now at Saratoga constitutes such a marked feature of every season. Shortly after this the house of Mr. Merrill passed into the hands of two brothers, David and James McMaster, who built large additions and enjoyed an extensive and profitable patronage.

HOTEL BUILT BY BENAJAH DOUGLAS IN 1792 LATER THE "ALDRIDGE HOUSE," AND NOW CALLED "BROOKSIDE"

THE ALDRIDGE HOUSE.

The Douglases now retired from the field, yielding the contest to other and more successful rivals. This house was purchased by Joseph Westcot, father of Reuben Westcot, in 1795, and upon his death it passed into the hands of Joshua B. Aldridge, who later married the widow of Mr. Westcot. Mr. Aldridge greatly enlarged and beautified the house and surrounding grounds, and made it famous as one of the most delightful summer resorts in the world.

Ah! many is the venerable grandsire and withered and palsied grand-dame scattered over the land, who in the hidden chambers of

[6]The Becker house stood just north of Campbell's marble works, and was taken down in April of this year.

memory still preserves, fresh and green, the sweet experiences of those youthful summers at Aldridge's; the long rambles through the dark and silent pines, along walks where the glaring eye of day could not discover, or the prudish moon betray the sweet exchange of amorous tokens, or the stolen delights of coquettish mysteries. And then the dear secrets of those forbidden interviews in the pavilion on the hill, with the subdued music and sounds of merriment stealing up from the ball-room of the house below, as with clasped hands troth was plighted and sealed with burning kisses, with none to witness save the rising moon, or the tall poplars that then and now throw their lengthy shadows far across the deep glen beyond. Aye, many is the heart, now schooled by the weary experiences and trials of a long life into staid and virtuous submission, that ever and anon is startled from its propriety by these ghosts of its young loves flitting out of the chambers of the past. Cherish them kindly and fear not, for there are none to babble now. Years of rising moons have waxed and waned since that dear old pavilion ceased to crown the hill with its beauty, and the few poplars left of that old-timed coronal that pointed heavenward with its tall leafy spires, as ye made your fleeting vows, are fast decaying, standing bald and bare against the sky. A few of those grand old pines are there, but underneath their gloomy shades one hears no soft sighs of love to mock the solemn dirge the moaning wind sounds through their leafy branches. All is changed; and the nymph that hallowed the grove of yore, has long ago departed from its classic shades to consecrate other scenes by her presence. Naught remains of its former charms but the memory. Even the house, forgetting its old uses, has outlived its ancient hospitality; and the halls that once echoed to "the sounds of revelry by night," whose larder supplied luxurious feasts, and at whose porch the devotees of health and pleasure always received such a hearty and generous welcome, now resounds only to the dull routine of Latin conjugations, and the dry details of mathematics, save when some hapless school-boy, fallen under the relentless arm of discipline, startles the spectres of past pleasures with his boisterous grief, as the worthy Rector of the "Institute"[7] enforces the maxims of Solomon.

In 1801 Stephen H. White built the large hotel now (1858) standing on the "Cory Place," which, after extensive additions in 1807, became a popular and leading house of entertainment. After his death, his widow conducted it for many years with great success. The house is now popularly called the "Cory Castle."[8]

BALLSTON BECOMES FAMOUS.

Ballston was now in the hey-day of her prosperity. Each succeeding summer brought a constantly increasing number of guests, and wealth began to flow into the coffers of its citizens. The fame of its waters and hotels, and the beauty and healthfulness of the surrounding country attracted visitors from the most remote sections of the Union, and even from distant lands. During any season one could find here representatives of whatever was distinguished in the world of intellect, or prominent in social life. Here gathered the statesman and scholar; the gentleman of wealthy leisure, and the beaux and belles of the land. What Saratoga is to the present generation, its elder sister, Ballston, was to our fathers' time.

Prior to 1794 the possibility of a town arising out of the hemlock swamp that surrounded the Spring was a presumption that even the most sanguine did not entertain. The public buildings of the county were accordingly located that year some two miles below it, in the older settlement on the "middle line." It was here if anywhere that prudent foresight could place the future centre of the shire. But the energy of Mr. Low had conquered the natural obstacles that surrounded the undertaking, and by 1800 a thriving little community had settled in the neighborhood. An indomitable spirit of enterprise characterized its inhabitants, which under the guidance of Low's practical and experienced mind soon made the place the famous summer resort of the world.

THE "SANS SOUCI."

To merit this renown every effort was made to adorn and beautify the village. The houses

[7] The school of Dr. Babcock.
[8] This house was burned in 1873.

of entertainment, by constant enlargement and improvement had now become models of their kind; but Mr. Low determined to excel anything which as yet had been attempted in the country. Accordingly he began the erection of the famous Sans Souci Hotel.[9] No expense was spared to make it, what for years after it was, the largest and most charming resort in the States. The plans were furnished by Andrew Berger, a French royalist refugee, and were brought from Europe by Governeur Morris, and in 1803 the work commenced. It was completed in 1804, and as its beautiful proportions, surpassing all previous attempts

San Souci Hotel of 1804.

in their extent and correct taste, developed themselves, the name of the Royal Prussian Summer Palace, "Sans Souci," was chosen as the appropriate title for this temple consecrated to the pleasure of mankind. The undertaking was crowned with immense success. The enterprising proprietor secured the services of the most popular and experienced hosts, and the fame of the Sans Souci was a household word throughout the land.

GOLDEN DAYS.

Those were the golden days of Ballston. Traffic had not invaded the grand old forest that bordered the winding Kayaderosseras and crowned the "Pinnacle" that stood sentinel over the little village that clustered at its base. The clatter and din of the factory and workshop had not then affrighted the charm of silence and beauty that brooded over the stream, as with many a graceful curve it wound its way through the wilderness to the Lake. Where over foaming rifts it poured its unstayed current down into the valley by the village, the "Lover's Leap,"[10] through whose lofty pines the wind moaned the requiem of the betrayed and lost, leaned its somber and beetling rocks far over the stream, shading it with a solemn and mournful grandeur, the Genius of Progress has long since leveled the forest and curbed the freedom of the lovely river, which now has become the patient and plodding servant of the manufacturer.

About this time a hotel was erected where the railroad embankment stands, on the north side of Front street, and afterwards kept by William Clark,[11] the father of Nathaniel M. Clark, so long the popular host of the "Village Hotel." Numerous small houses sprang up on the flat around the Spring, devoted to the lodging of guests from the over-crowded larger houses, and to the trades and recreations usually dependent upon summer resorts. Season after season witnessed a constantly increasing patronage, and during the summer months hotels and private houses were thronged to overflowing. The permanent residents of the village at this time had increased to about five hundred.

VILLAGE INCORPORATED.

March 21st, 1807, the village was incorporated under its present name, with a population ranging between six and seven hundred. At this time, and for years after, its medicinal waters and popular hotels placed it foremost as a summer resort, and it was only after a long contest, and the final failure of its then existing fountains, that the palm was yielded to its dashing rival, Saratoga.

THE COUNTY SEAT.

The burning of the old Court House[12] on the "middle line" on March 13, 1816, raised the question for a new location of the "county seat." The thrift and energy of the inhabitants around the Springs had made the village a prominent centre of business, and geographically it was also about the centre of the county. The powerful interest of Mr. Low was also invoked, and after a long contest in the "lobby," extending through two sessions

[9]The Sans Souci was demolished in 1887.

[10]A precipitous rock bluff nearly 100 feet in height, on the south bank of the Kayaderosseras, nearly opposite the Pulp mill.

[11]This was known as Clark's Hotel; it was burned in 1823.

[12]"The first court house, which was erected two miles southwest from the village, was destroyed by fire in the night of March 23, 1816. One of the prisoners perished. He was chained to the floor so securely that he could not be removed."—Judge George G. Scott.

of the Legislature, between Ballston and Saratoga, the county buildings were finally located on a sightly lot on High street in Ballston, presented to the county by Mr. Low June 5th, 1817, for that purpose. The Commissioners named in the Act for locating the public buildings were James Merrill, of Ballston Spa; Elisha Powell, of Milton; Isaac Gere, of Galway; John Gibson, of Ballston and Gilbert Waring, of Milton.

The trustees of the village appointed Hons. Samuel Young and James Thompson their counsel to present the claim for the "county seat" before the Legislature, and to their indefatigable exertions in that behalf is owing the final success of the movement. They were afterwards remunerated by a tax on the village.

April 20, 1816, the Court of Common Pleas met and appointed the Public School house[13] in Ballston Spa as the place for holding courts until the completion of the county buildings. The grand jury met for public business at the "Mansion House," the old building on Front street next to the railroad, then kept by Archibald Kidd.

The county clerk's office was erected in 1824.[14] Moses Williams, Andrew Watrous and Eli Barnum being the Commissioners appointed for that purpose.

THE SPRINGS.

The peculiar geological formation in which the mineral waters that have given this region such a marked celebrity are found, is known as the "Hudson River Slate." The range in which they are known to exist is a well defined valley first traceable in the city of Albany; thence northwesterly to Ballston Spa, where it deflects to the northeast until it reaches Saratoga Springs, whence it followed a little north of east into Argyle, in the adjoining county of Washington. All along this peculiar formation the waters generally denominated the "acidulous carbonated" have been found, either appearing spontaneously upon the surface, the result of hidden subterranean forces, or developed by the arts of man searching into the hidden recesses of the earth for its mysteriously compounded cordials for the health of humanity. It is but proper here to mention that the springs both at Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs which have attained the greatest celebrity, are those which were forced to the surface by natural agencies. All the springs that have been found in this valley coincide in their specific gravity and the general chemical constituents of their waters.

The history of the "Public Well," or "Iron-Railing Spring" having been given elsewhere, we now note its chemical components as given by Dr. Meade in 1817. The temperature of the spring was found to be 52 degrees Fahrenheit. The specific gravity of one quart, when compared with that of distilled water was as 1008 to 1000. The following ingredients were revealed by accurate tests of one quart of water:

Muriat of Soda	42	grains
Muriat of Lime	3¼	"
Muriat of Magnesia	1¾	"
Carbonate of Magnesia	11¾	"
Carbonate of Lime	9¼	"
Oxide of Iron	1	"
Total	69	grains
Carbonic Acid Gas	61	cubic inches
Azotic	2½	"
Total	63½	cubic inches

About thirty years after the discovery of this spring, Mr. Low discovered another of similar character which arose in the middle of Gordon's Creek, about where Washington street now crosses Bath. The creek then ran in the middle of the former street. In a spring flood which occurred shortly after this discovery, the course of the stream was changed a little farther to the north, leaving the spring just on the southern margin of the creek. Any rise in the water overflowed the mineral fountain. To remedy this Mr. Low diverted the creek into its present channel, and secured the spring for public use. The water, however, seems to have undergone a marked change. At its first appearance it is said to have been superior to the Public Well, but after these efforts to secure it, it deteriorated to such an extent that it was abandoned as a drinking fountain, and afterwards devoted to bathing, a house having been erected over it for that purpose.

A singular phenomenon occurred however, after the course of the creek had been turned. In the middle of the new channel, about op-

[13]Known as The Academy, on Galway street.
[14]The stone building on Front street, near the railroad bridge, taken down a few years since.

posite the present oil-cloth manufactory, another spring suddenly burst forth, accompanied with a loud explosion, and throwing a considerable column of water some distance above the surface of the stream. This powerful discharge continued for two days, when the spring receded to the level of the creek. Strenuous exertions were made to secure this remarkable fountain, but they proved unsuccessful.

Shortly after this singular freak of nature, Mr. Low discovered in the original bed of the creek, a few feet from his first spring, a moist spot, with gas bubbles constantly arising and bursting on the surface. By digging and curbing he succeeded in securing the celebrated spring known as "Low's Well." Of this well Dr. Meade in his analysis says: "It is constantly emitting a large quantity of gas which arises from the bottom of the well, and passing the bubbles through it, break on the surface. This gas proves fatal to animal life. Birds or fishes, if suspended over it for a few minutes, are immediately killed." The water of this spring was similar in its medicinal properties to the Public Well.

Other well-known springs were the Washington Spring, Park Spring, and Lafayette Spring.

As an evidence of the early knowledge of the existence of these peculiar waters at Ballston, Col. Humphries, a distinguished officer of the army of the Revolution, reported them as being great favorites of the soldiers, who resorted to them during the campaign of 1777, and that owing to the above fact the waters were in a great measure substituted in the place of ardent spirits, and less drunkenness existed during the presence of the troops in this neighborhood on that account.

Mr. Booth's history of the earliest days of Ballston Spa ends here. It is a vivid picture, painted by the hand of a master, of the pioneer life and early struggles of the first settlers, and of the renown which came to the village in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, as the most famous watering place in America.

THE SPRINGS OF BALLSTON SPA.

In the early years of the nineteenth century, and prior to the incorporation of the village, the mineral springs of Ballston Spa had attained great renown, and with its unrivalled hotel accommodations, the village became the "first watering place of America." An old Gazetteer published in 1823, says that its population at that time was 1,909, and that "this place is famous for its mineral waters, which are much frequented by the gay and fashionable during the months of July and August. In the summer of 1818, twenty-five hundred persons visited these springs, of whom more than twelve hundred were from States south of New York."

Dr. Valentine Seaman, of New York, was the first to attempt an analysis of the mineral waters of Ballston and Saratoga. His analysis was made in 1792, and published under the title of "A Dissertation on the Mineral Waters of Saratoga—including an account of the waters of Ballston." A second and enlarged edition was published in 1809. Mr. Willard Lester, of Saratoga Springs, is the owner of one of the two or three copies of this book still in existence, from which we quote the following interesting paragraphs:

"The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth, and he that is wise will not abhor them."—Ecc. xxxviii-4.

"As the burning mountains of Italy command the astonishment of mankind, so the cold boiling springs of Saratoga, ought, I had almost said, to demand their adoration. They constantly boil up refreshing fountains, tended as it were, by Hygeia herself, dispensing health and happiness to all around."

"Places, like persons, after having attained a certain degree of celebrity, frequently undergo a change in their names. Thus the modest *fountaine de belle eau* has become the admired *Fontainbleau*, and the once obscure town of Brighthelmestone has become the brilliant *Brighton*. So also Ballstown, which afterwards to distinguish it from a place of the same name in the District of Maine, was called Balltown, has finally, in seeming subserviency to the *ton* of the times, assumed the more fashionable title of *Ballston*."

"Every local consideration, beside the highly medicinal virtues of the waters themselves, tends to render these Springs equal, if not superior as a place of general resort, to any of the most distinguished watering places in Europe. The sportsman here need never languish for want of employment; should fishing be his favorite amusement, he has the lakes and rivers at his command; if he delights in his gun, here are not wanting objects whereupon to try his skill. To those who are fond of riding and of enjoying the sublime and varied scenery of nature, no country is better calculated than this to gratify their taste. When to all this, we add the extraordinary accommodations and en-

tertainment furnished at Ballston, equalling the most unbounded wish, we cannot be surprised that these, like most other celebrated medicated springs, from having at first been the refuge of suffering humanity, should become the seat and empire of luxury and dissipation, the rallying point of parties of pleasure."

"While the superior accommodation fixes upon Ballston as the place of dwelling, the Springs of Saratoga will command frequent visits."

"I am told that during the Revolutionary War, while the troops lay at Saratoga, many of them were affected with the itch, and were sent off in companies to these Springs, by which they were all cured."

"The mode of passing the time, it is true, may chill the mace and paralyze the balls of the billiard board, but it will warm the heart, and promote the healthy movement of its blood; it may diminish the demand for cards, but it will enhance the value of life. Let us then be upon the alert, and by well directed exertions repel the approaches of disease and keep clear from the favours of the Faculty: it is assuredly

'Better to hunt the fields for health unbought
Than fee the Doctor for a nauseous draught'."

In 1817, twenty years after Dr. Seaman had written of the Springs, William Meade, M. D., of Philadelphia, in his book on the mineral waters of Ballston and Saratoga, says: "At this period there are few places in any country where the invalid, or the man of leisure, can be more agreeably accommodated than at Ballston and Saratoga. In this, Ballston certainly first took the lead, principally owing to the spirited exertions of a wealthy proprietor (Nicholas Low) who has spared no expense in erecting a building at once spacious and commodious; and this, with several other hotels equally respectable, has established Ballston as a watering place of the most fashionable resort in the United States."

The original Spring, which has been fully described by Mr. Booth, was about fifty feet south of the present Iron Spring, in the center of Front street, at its intersection with Charlton street, and a little west of the crosswalk. This spring came to be known as the "Public Well." At first it was confined in a common barrel. About the year 1800 the water was secured in a metal pipe eighteen inches in diameter, which was surrounded with an ornamental iron railing, with four gates, and a marble floor. It then received the appellation of "the iron-railing spring."

In the year 1803, while the Sans Souci was being erected, Mr. Low discovered a spring a short distance from the north-west corner of the hotel premises, which became widely known as Low's Well, and was the most popular of all the Ballston springs. This was one of the group of springs known as the Sans Souci Springs. The other springs composing the group were the Sans Souci, directly in the rear of the hotel; a Sulphur spring near by; Park Spring in the rear of Medbery's Hotel, and New Spring, which was found under the easterly part of the bath-houses.

That part of the village on the north side of Washington street, and west of Bath street, was known as the Public Park, and about 1807 several other springs were discovered in the Park. These springs were similar in medicinal properties to those previously discovered, and never received much attention, and no record of them has been preserved.

The United States Spring was near the northeast corner of Bath and Washington streets, and with the group of Sans Souci springs was connected with the bath houses, which were on the north side of Washington street, east of Bath street. The bath houses were owned by James Jack.

During the latter part of the summer of 1817, continued rains had so swollen Gordon creek that it burst its usual bounds, and in some places formed a new channel. On the subsiding of the flood, a new spring of splendid medicinal qualities was discovered. It was located in front of the factory (now the Tannery), near the creek. There was an immense flow of water, and when it was confined in a tube, "the water arose about five feet above the level of the brook, and was then suffered to fall over its sides in the form of a *jet d'eau*, furnishing a fine opportunity for inspecting its sparkling qualities to the greatest advantage." This fountain continued to flow for about two years, the wonder and admiration of all who saw it and drank of its waters. At length, however, the abundant carbonic acid gas seemed to be exhausted, and all attempts to reclaim the Spring were fruitless. This was called the Washington Spring.

In 1824 another Spring was discovered about one hundred feet south of the Iron-Railing Spring, and was first named the New Washington Spring. The name was changed to Lafayette Spring, in honor of the Marquis (General) de Lafayette, who made his last

visit to the United States, arriving in this country soon after the discovery of the Spring. It survived all the other springs of early days, common usage causing it to be called the Old Iron Spring, and continued its abundant flow until in the '70's, when the boring of the present Iron Spring at the west end of Front street, evidently tapped the same mineral vein, and the "Old Spring," which had been for half a century a favorite resort for all our citizens was exhausted, and gave place to the present spring, whose medicinal properties are almost identical with those of the "Old Spring."

QUALITIES OF "THE SPRINGS."

Writing from Yale College, New Haven, under date of April 27, 1824, Benjamin Silliman, the eminent professor of chemistry in that institution, gives the following interesting description of the springs:

"Dear Sir: You request my opinion of the mineral waters at Ballston Spa. They are in my view, very valuable, and I can discern no serious reason why public opinion should be less favorable to them now than formerly. I became acquainted with the old spring, near Mr. Aldridge's in consequence of using its waters uninterruptedly at the fountain head, for a month, in the autumn of 1797; and a residence for the same length of time at Ballston Spa, during the last summer, gave me an opportunity of renewing my acquaintance with the Old Spring, and of becoming familiar also with those more recently discovered fountains, which have been opened and brought into use. The old spring appears substantially as it did in 1797, and is, I suppose, surpassed by no mineral fountain in the world as a brisk, copious, slightly saline, and strong chalybeate. The principal spring under the bath house, while it is also a brisk chalybeate, is, besides in a high degree saline, and is probably unrivalled as a natural combination of this class. Its cathartic properties are strong and its tonic powers equally so. There is no spring either at Ballston Spa or Saratoga Springs which I should prefer to this. I speak of my own experience—for some persons, a brisk cathartic water, scarcely chalybeate at all, like the Congress spring, may be preferable. The Congress spring is also, so far as I am informed, without a rival in its class—but it is scarcely proper to call it a chalybeate, as it is only so in a slight degree. There is no reason why the establishments at Saratoga Springs and Ballston Spa should regard each other with an unfriendly feeling. The accommodations of both are too good to need praise from me, and the bounty of the Creator has poured forth these fountains of health, in the great valley (for I regard the springs of Ballston Spa and Saratoga as parts of one great system) with a profuse benevolence unknown in any other country. Nothing can exceed the variety, copiousness and excellence of the springs at Saratoga—but those of Ballston Spa are in no respect except that of number and variety inferior to them, and I trust the day is not distant when a truly liberal feeling, will in both villages, lead to mutual commendation, and an amicable rivalry in efforts to please and to accommodate their guests; and the salutary effect will then, I am persuaded, soon be visible, in the increased number of visitors from every part of this great continent; a number more than sufficient to fill both villages, and fully reward the spirited and liberal proprietors of their respective public establishments. With the best wishes for the prosperity of both places, I remain

"Your Obt. Servt.,

B. SILLIMAN."

From the tone of this letter it is quite evident that a bitter rivalry had sprung up between the villages for supremacy as a summer resort, and that some representations had been made in regard to the springs at Ballston Spa which were not strictly true. The letter is a model one, for while it speaks in highest praise of the Ballston springs, it also gives merited commendation to the fountains at Saratoga, and counsels the cultivation of more amicable relations between the villages.

BALLSTON'S LATER SPRINGS.

THE GLEN SPRING.

In the month of April, 1861, Mr. George W. Chapman noticed a strong "bubbling," with an odor of gas, in the Kayaderosseras, just below the dam of the woolen mill (now the Pulp mill) in "The Glen." He drilled through the rock to a depth of about seventy-five feet, when he struck a vein of mineral water which rose to the surface and spouted several feet into the air. The water was strongly impregnated with carbonic acid gas, most agreeable to the taste, and was pronounced by experts equal to the best of the Saratoga waters. It somewhat resembled the Geyser water. Mr. Chapman tubed the spring, and created a small island about it, which was reached by a light bridge. This spring became a great favorite, especially with the young people. It was located in a lovely spot, deep in "The Glen," and just beyond the "Lovers' Leap." The walk to the spring was along the high southern bank of the Kayaderosseras, but the most popular route was by boat up the Kayaderosseras. Benjamin Osgood, an old sailor, built a large boat that would accommodate about twenty people,

which he propelled with one large oar from the stern, the round trip occupying a half hour. Osgood, a little later on, became more familiarly known as "Beauregard," from his well-known Southern proclivities, which frequently engaged him in heated and not always harmless argument. The interest in the "Chapman Spring" abated after two or three summers; the bridge floated off during high water, and as a "fountain of health" and a favorite trysting place it has become only a memory.

ARTESIAN LITHIA SPRING.

In the month of April, 1865, no little excitement was created by the reported discovery of petroleum in Ballston Spa. A ditch was being dug in the rear of their tannery on Saratoga avenue, by the Parent brothers, when the workmen on returning to their labor one morning, discovered an oily substance in the bottom of the excavation. They informed their employers, and in a few days reported tests of the "crude oil" taken from the ditch declared it to be superior to that of the Pennsylvania oil region. Excitement ran high. Land in various localities was leased and a large number of derricks erected, while public expectation centred upon the boring operations at the tannery. Oil prospectors and experts from Pennsylvania and elsewhere were numerous and enthusiastic over the new Oildorado. The Parents sold their tannery for $60,000, and not long afterward the drill stuck fast in the bore. Efforts to recover it were futile, and a new boring was begun on the bank of the spill-way from the lower Blue Mill pond.

Just at this time, in the month of June, a "burning spring" was discovered in the grove of John S. ("Bony") Ford, on Malta avenue, a little southwest of the present High School building. A blast opened the rock, and when Mr. Ford discovered a strong current of gas issuing from the opening, he turned a barrel over the spot, and connected this extemporized gasometer with a large lantern in which was a good sized gas burner. The gas burned freely and gave a beautiful light. It was left burning for several weeks, and it was proposed to light the village with this natural gas, but no definite action was taken.

The "burning spring" only added to the prevailing excitement, and the boring for oil was vigorously prosecuted. The drilling was in charge of Simon B. Conde and James Denton, who had spent some time in the Pennsylvania oil district. On March 31, 1866, when the drill reached a depth of five hundred and fifty feet, Mr. Conde was startled by a loud rumbling from the bore, and ran hastily from the spot. In a moment the drill and the iron rod to which it was attached, some thirty feet in length, and weighing several hundred pounds, shot out of the bore to a height of twenty feet, followed by a solid column of water four inches in diameter, which sprang fifty feet into the air. The spouting continued for about two hours, until the gas had spent its force, and was repeated every third day, until the spring was tubed. This novel sight attracted hundreds of visitors, many from a distance. The water, as shown by the analysis, was much stronger than the Saratoga waters, and of very great medicinal value. It was named the "Artesian Lithia Spring," and is located on Saratoga avenue.

The following is the analysis of one gallon of the water:

	GRAINS.
Chloride of sodium	750.030
Chloride of potassium	33.276
Bromide of sodium	3.643
Iodide of sodium	0.124
Fluoride of calcium	a trace
Bicarbonate of lithia	7.750
Bicarbonate of soda	11.928
Bicarbonate of magnesia	180.602
Bicarbonate of lime	238.156
Bicarbonate of strontia	0.867
Bicarbonate of baryta	3.881
Bicarbonate of iron	1.581
Sulphate of potassa	0.520
Phosphate of soda	0.050
Biborate of soda	a trace
Alumina	0.077
Silica	0.761
Organic matter	a trace
Total	1,233.246
Carbonic acid gas	426.114 cubic in.
Density	1.0159 "
Temperature	52 deg. F.

HIDE-FRANKLIN SPRING.

In July, 1853, it was claimed that a new spring had been discovered through the agency of modern spiritualism. Dr. Barron, a physician from Massachusetts, and a firm believer in spiritualism, appeared in Ballston, and said

he "was directed by the spirits to come to Ballston and purchase a certain piece of ground south of the Red Mill, on which would be found a mineral fountain whose waters would be 'for the healing of the nations.'" The ground was bought for $1,000, and the search for the spring went on for some months without success, when Dr. Barron departed, a poorer if not a wiser man.

It is a trite saying that "history repeats itself." In 1868 the "Spiritualist Society" was quite strong and on the increase in the village. In former years and during the summer of 1868, Samuel Hides, a man of considerable wealth, living on Malta avenue, on more than one occasion at "seances," had communications through a "medium" from Benjamin Franklin. The spirit of "Good Old Ben" told Hides that by boring at a particular spot on his farm he would "find a spring of remarkable medicinal value which would be 'for the healing of the nations'." With strong faith in the superior knowledge of "Good Old Ben," Hides began operations, Conde and Denton handling the drills. Franklin was possessed of greater knowledge as to the location of these great reservoirs of life-giving waters, than his Massachusetts brother-spirit, and in April, 1869, after drilling through earth and rock to a depth of seven hundred and fifteen feet, the water came rushing up with great velocity, and was thrown into the air more than fifty feet.

The analysis follows:

	GRAINS.
Chloride of sodium	659.344
Chloride of potassium	33.930
Bromide of sodium	4.665
Iodide of sodium	.235
Fluoride of calcium	a trace
Bicarbonate of lithia	6.777
Bicarbonate of soda	94.604
Bicarbonate of magnesia	177.868
Bicarbonate of lime	202.232
Bicarbonate of strontia	.002
Bicarbonate of baryta	1.231
Bicarbonate of iron	1.609
Sulphate of potassa	.762
Phosphate of soda	.011
Biborate of soda	a trace
Alumina	.263
Silica	.735
Organic matter	a trace
Total	1184.368
Carbonic acid gas	460.066 cubic in.
Density	1.0115 "
Temperature	52 deg. F.

WASHINGTON LITHIA WELL.

This spring is situated at the west end of Van Buren street, close to the railroad embankment. It was discovered in the autumn of 1868, after boring to a depth of six hundred and twelve feet. The spring is not open to the public. The following is the analysis of the water:

	GRAINS.
Chloride of sodium	645.481
Chloride of potassium	9.232
Bromide of sodium	2.368
Iodide of sodium	.925
Fluoride of calcium	a trace
Bicarbonate of lithia	10.514
Bicarbonate of soda	34.400
Bicarbonate of magnesia	158.348
Bicarbonate of lime	178.484
Bicarbonate of strontia	.189
Bicarbonate of baryta	4.739
Bicarbonate of iron	2.296
Sulphate of potassa	none
Phosphate of soda	.003
Biborate of soda	a trace
Alumina	.595
Silica	1.026
Organic matter	a trace
Total	1047.700
Carbonic acid gas	338.345 cubic in.
Density	1.010 "
Temperature	49 deg. F.

SANS SOUCI SPRING.

In 1870, Mr. George Smith, proprietor of the Sans Souci, decided to drill for mineral water. Familiar with the history of "Low's Well," and the "Sans Souci Spring" of early days, he selected the spot he desired in the court of the hotel, directly on a line with the central hall. Mr. Button, of Lansingburgh, was employed to do the drilling. When the drill reached the water at a depth of six hundred and ninety feet, the wonderful spouting phenomena of the "Artesian" and "Franklin" springs was reproduced at the "Sans Souci." The grand spouting was witnessed by a large crowd, which had been called together by the whistle of the engine. The analysis follows:

	GRAINS.
Chloride of sodium	572.306
Chloride of potassium	5.860
Bromide of sodium	1.055
Iodide of sodium	.620
Bicarbonate of soda	4.757
Bicarbonate of lithia	11.793
Phosphate of lime	193.179
Bicarbonate of magnesia	181.106
Bicarbonate of iron	9.239
Alumina	a trace

Silica	1.140
Bicarbonate of baryta	1.790
Bicarbonate of strontia	a trace
Chloride of rubidium	a trace
Total	986.345
Carbonic acid gas	538.074 cubic in.
Density	1.015 "
Temperature	50 deg. F.

THE IRON SPRING

Is owned by the village, and is free to the public. It is located at the west end of Front street, about fifty feet north of Ballston's first Spring. It is an artesian well, six hundred

The Iron Spring, 1907.

and forty-seven feet in depth, and was drilled in 1874. It is quite similar in its mineral qualities to the original spring.

THE WEST SPRING.

In boring for fresh water about ten years ago, the late Hon. George West, struck a vein of splendid mineral water at great depth. For a few years this spring was opened to the public at stated times, but at present is closed. It is located near the bag factory.

While the springs which first gave Ballston Spa its great renown as a summer resort have disappeared, and the neighboring village of Saratoga Springs has become the most famous watering place in the world, Ballston Spa has to-day within its corporate limits six medicinal springs that are not surpassed by any in the United States or Europe.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

The following account of the visit of Sir William Johnson to the spring at Ballston Spa is from Mr. Booth's unpublished history. The published histories of Saratoga County do not mention this visit of Sir William to the original spring at Ballston Spa, but speak only of his visit to the High Rock Spring at Saratoga. There is little doubt that the spring at Ballston Spa was the one recommended by the Indian medicine men, and that while tarrying here he was first informed of the spring at Saratoga, which he afterward visited.[1]

Mr. Booth writes:

In 1767, Sir William Johnson, the Lord of "Johnson Hall," in the Mohawk country, being afflicted with that inevitable accompaniment of the English Baronetcy of the olden time—the gout, was advised by his Indian medicine men to test the efficacy of certain mineral waters in these parts. Setting forth from his home among the Indians, he was borne by slow stages to Schenectady, followed by a large retinue of attendants, and what honest Bailie Jarvie would have called "a lang tail" of Mohawks. Arriving in Schenectady early in August, this first pilgrim to the modern Bethesda found there was no road farther northward than "McDonald's clearing," and his gouty limbs compelling him to travel by litter, or wagon, he sent forward a party, which under the guidance of Michael McDonald completed the road from Long Lake to the Spring. This was the first road opened in this part of the country, and, with but trifling changes in its course, has remained the principal highway from Ballston Spa to Schenectady.

The road reported complete, towards the end of August, the gouty old baronet resumed his pilgrimage in search of health. We can imagine that first party of visitants dragging its slow length along. Now toiling through deep mires, which to it must have seemed veritable "sloughs of despond;" now jolting

[1]Jeptha R. Simms in his "Frontiersmen of New York" says: "I had supposed this visit of the Baronet was to Ballston instead of Saratoga, because many of the white settlers as well as the Indians had discovered the medical properties of those 'healing waters.' Mr. Stone speaks of his going to the High Rock Spring at Saratoga, though on what authority is not shown."

over felled timber; with the testy lord of the Mohawk groaning an accompaniment of curses, both loud and deep, first on his swelled and swaddled legs, then on his attendants, and more than all upon the wretched road. Slowly, wearily and painfully they toiled on, over a route along which a few years later the flying coach, laden with its freight of devotees of health and pleasure, rolled swiftly by toward the same goal, which had then become the fashionable summer resort of the world.

In sight of and parallel with it the snorting locomotive, waking the echoes of the remnants of those old forests, now whirls over its iron course its yearly quota of tens of thousands anxious pilgrims to the modern Mecca of Pleasure and Mammon that has arisen from the wilderness of the Kayaderosseras.

Little did the swearing old baronet know on what a wild chase he was leading the world, or what a motley horde he was pioneering through this then *terra incognita.* At night-fall of the first day, after a weary march, they reached McDonald's. They had advanced just ten miles. Passing the night here, on the morrow they pursued their journey over Sir William's new road, and although the remaining distance did not exceed five miles, our pilgrims did not reach their proposed camping ground near the spring, until towards evening of that day. Such were the difficulties attendant upon this first excursion from Schenectady to "The Springs."

The party encamped on the flat, across the creek, and directly opposite the original spring, known as the "Public Well," or "Iron-Railing Spring," in the village of Ballston Spa. This was the ancient Indian camping ground, and a considerable "clearing" had been made here by them. The Spring as Johnson first saw it, bubbled out from the base of a slaty ledge on the east bank of the creek, since known as Gordon creek, the waters of which almost overflowed the Spring. This stream years afterwards was diverted from its original course by a canal, thus changing materially the natural features of the locality.

While stopping here he was advised by his Indian attendants of the existence of other springs of medicinal water still farther to the northward. Causing the country to be explored, the celebrated "High Rock" spring at Saratoga was discovered; and having a road opened along the Kayaderosseras to Baker's bridge, and thence north to the Spring, Sir William, as soon as his health permitted, removed his camp thither. This was the first authenticated visit of a white man to the famous fountains of Saratoga. The Springs of Ballston were known to exist, and had been visited by the McDonalds prior to Johnson's expedition, and one of the brothers acted as his guide on that occasion. The Baronet, in alluding to these springs, said: "In tracing the history of these medicinal springs, I could only learn that an Indian chief discovered them to a sick French officer in the early part of their war with the English. But whether they were these very springs in this bason, or those at ten miles distance, properly called Saratoga Springs, I know not."

So impressed was Johnson with the beneficent effects of these mineral waters that through his exertion the spring was reserved for public use in the grants of the surrounding land. Ever after the fountain was known as "the Public Well."

Johnson returned from the Springs at the close of the season much improved in health, making most of the journey to Schenectady on foot, as preferable to enduring the jolting over the rude forest road he had opened. The visit and cure of so distinguished a person was calculated to spread the reputation of the waters. From the settlements along the Hudson and Mohawk, parties sought them for health, or to gratify their curiosity; and the sick, the halt, or the curious, following the lonely trails through the gloomy forests, commenced the pilgrimage to these health-giving fountains that time has since ripened into a social institution of peculiar and imposing magnitude.

WASHINGTON VISITS THE SPRING.

Notable as was the visit of Sir William Johnson in 1767, it hardly surpasses in interest the later visit of General Washington in 1783. While at his Headquarters in Newburg, awaiting the arrival of the treaty of peace, Washington decided to visit the scene of Burgoyne's surrender at Schuylerville, and other points of interest in Northern New York. Governor George Clinton, Alexander

Hamilton and two members of his staff, Colonels Humphrey and Fish, accompanied him. Irving, in his life of Washington, says:

"Washington now (1783) found his position at Headquarters irksome; there was little to do, and he was likely to be incessantly teased with applications and demands, which he had neither the means nor power to satisfy. He resolved, therefore, to while away part of the time that must intervene before the arrival of the definitive treaty by making a tour to the northern and western parts of the State, and visiting the places which had been the theatre of important military transactions. He had another object in view; he desired to facilitate, as far as in his power, the operations which would be necessary for occupying, as soon as evacuated by British troops, the posts ceded by the Treaty of Peace.

"Governor Clinton accompanied him on the expedition. They set out by water from Newburg, ascended the Hudson to Albany, visited Saratoga and the scene of Burgoyne's surrender; embarked on Lake George, where light boats had been provided for them; traversed that beautiful lake, so full of historic interest; proceeded to Ticonderoga and Crown Point; and, after reconnoitering those eventful posts, returned to Schenectady."

On their return route, the party visited the High Rock Spring at Saratoga. Col. William L. Stone, in his "Reminiscences of Saratoga and Ballston," tells of Washington's visit to Ballston. He says:

"They left (Saratoga) on horseback for Schenectady, with the intention of visiting on their route the newly-discovered spring at Ballston Spa, afterwards known as the 'Iron-Railing Spring,'—and of dining with General Gordon, who, at that time lived upon the 'middle line road.'

"On their route through the woods between the two Springs, they struck the path leading west by Merrick's Mills (now Factory Village) to the Middle Line Road, and continued west toward that road, thus losing their way. Near Merrick's lived one 'Tom' Conner, who was chopping wood at his cabin door. They inquired of him the way to the Spring, and 'Tom' gave the requisite directions. The party accordingly retraced their steps a short distance upon the road by which they had come, but soon becoming bewildered, rode back for more explicit directions. 'Tom' had, by this time, lost his temper, and peevishly cried out to the spokesman of the party—who happened to be Washington—'I tell you, turn back and take the first right-hand path into the woods, and then stick to it—any darned fool would know the way.' When 'Tom' afterwards learned that he had addressed Washington himself in this unceremonious manner, he was extremely chagrined and mortified. His neighbors, for a long time afterwards, tormented poor 'Tom' on his 'reception of General Washington.'

"The party, following 'Tom's' instructions found the Spring, then flowing through a barrel, and in the midst of a dense forest. From the Spring, Washington and his companions proceeded to General Gordon's, where they dined. Toward nightfall they parted from that General with many expressions of regret, and left for Schenectady. As the party moved off, James Scott, the father of Hon. George G. Scott, of Ballston, then in his tenth year, boy-like, secreted himself behind a rail-fence by the roadside, and peeped through the rails. He ever afterwards retained a vivid recollection of Washington's physiognomy and appearance on horseback."

In later years the memory of this visit gave to one of Ballston's medicinal fountains its name—"Washington Spring."

THE HOTELS.

Mr. Booth has given the early history of the Sans Souci, the Aldridge (Douglas) House, McMaster's and White's. There are many other entertaining facts which are deserving of a place in the history of the village.

THE FAMOUS SANS SOUCI.

In the year 1803 Nicholas Low erected the spacious Sans Souci, Ballston's largest hotel, from plans furnished by Andrew Berger, a French loyalist refugee, who became its first landlord the next year. Harper's Tourists' Guide, published as late as 1830, says: "The Sans Souci Hotel is the principal house in the place, and is at least equal in plan and arrangement to any similar establishment in the country. Sans Souci is a building of great size and presents a front 156 feet long, with a wing extending back from each end 150 feet, all of them three stories high, and contains lodging for 250 persons." The Sans Souci buildings and grounds at this time occupied the entire block bounded by Front street, Milton avenue, Washington and Spring streets.

In this large and palatial hotel were entertained the most distinguished men of the nation—Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Martin Van Buren and his son Prince John, General Wool, J. Fenimore Cooper, Franklin Pierce, Commodores Hull, Decatur and McDonough, Andrew Jackson, Douglas, Seward, William L. Marcy, Edward Everett, Silas Wright, Washington Irving—presidents, senators, governors and judges, soldiers and authors inscribed their names on its register. There Joseph Bonaparte, ex-king of Spain, and his suite stayed for some months in 1821; and there, in

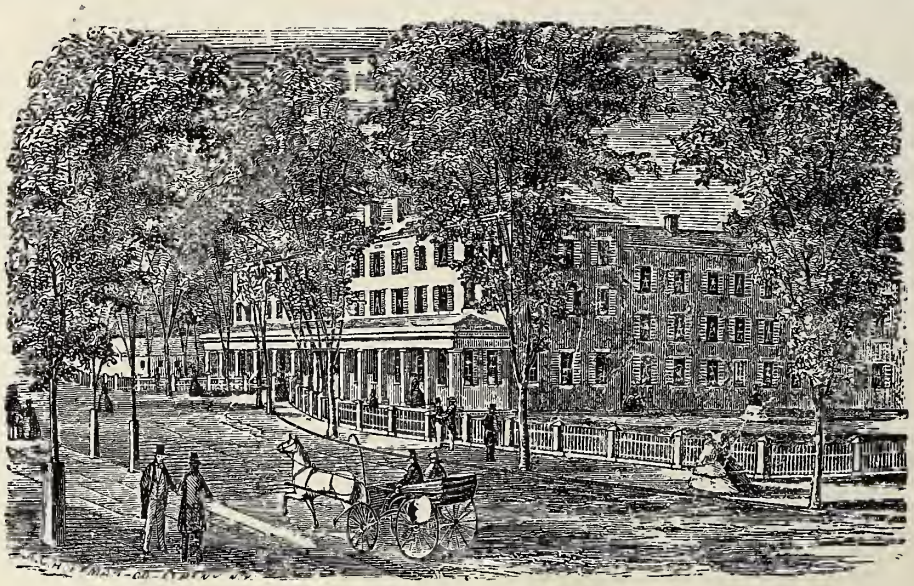
the east parlor, a messenger brought to him the letter that announced the death of the great Napoleon on the island of St. Helena. Prince Napoleon, the last Emperor of France, was a guest when a young man. And there, on July 4, 1857, Hon. William L. Marcy, three times Governor of New York, died quite suddenly.

The Ballston Journal of July 7, 1857, has the following account of the death of Governor Marcy:

"This distinguished citizen, who had filled so many important stations both in the State and nation, departed this life on last Saturday afternoon, July 4, about half past twelve o'clock, at the Sans Souci Hotel in this village, where he had been staying a few weeks previous to his intended departure for Europe. An hour previous to his death, Mr. Marcy was walking about our streets, and, to all appearances, was in perfect health. During the forenoon, however, he complained of a slight pain in his back, and about 11 o'clock A. M. he called at the residence of Dr. L. Moore. Not finding the doctor at home, he shortly afterward returned to the hotel and requested the clerk to send for the doctor. He then retired to his room, (about 15 minutes past 12.) The doctor soon arriving went to his room and rapped, but received no answer. He then returned to the office and after waiting a few minutes again went to his room and opened the door. On entering the room he found him, as was first supposed, in a quiet sleep; but alas! life had departed. It is supposed his difficulty was a disease of the heart. He was Governor three terms, being defeated for a fourth nomination by Gov. Wm. H. Seward. He was a soldier of the war of 1812; recorder of the City of Troy; attorney-general and also controller of the State; justice of the supreme court; U. S. senator; secretary of war under President Polk, and secretary of state under President Pierce. Mr. Marcy was one of the most eminent statesmen of his day."

More than one hundred years ago, in the summer of 1805, the second season of the Sans Souci, Mr. Elkanah Watson and Mr. Bayard were traveling in the northern part of the State of New York. Mr. Watson's journal says:

"We left Albany on the 19th of August, and the ensuing day reached the 'Sans Souci,' in Ballston, amid scenes of elegance and gaiety. We seated our-



SANS SOUCI HOTEL IN 1850.

selves at a sumptuous table, with about a hundred guests of all classes, but generally, from their appearance and deportment, of the first respectability, assembled here from every part of the Union and from Europe, in the pursuit of health or pleasure, or matrimony, or of vice. This is the most splendid watering-place in America, and is scarcely surpassed in Europe in its dimensions, and the taste and elegance of its arrangement. The building contains about one hundred apartments, all respectably furnished. The plan upon which it is constructed, the architecture, the style of the outbuildings, and the gravel walks girted with shrubbery—are all on a magnificent scale. What a contrast has the progress of fifteen years, since I was here in 1790, produced! Where the 'Sans Souci' now stands, was then an almost impenetrable quagmire, enveloped in trees, and deformed by stumps and fallen logs. A single, one-story house, situated upon the hill which overlooked this desolate valley, was the only public accommodation, and although at the height of the season was oc-

cupied by six or eight families. I described, in my journal of that day, the arrangements for drinking and bathing which then existed.

"In the evening, we attended a ball in the spacious hall, brilliantly illuminated with chandeliers, and adorned with various other appliances of elegance and luxury. Here was congregated a fine exhibition of the refinement of the *'beau monde.'* A large proportion of the assembly was from Southern States, and was distinguished by elegant and polished manners. Instead of the old-fashioned country dances and four-hand reels, of revolutionary days, I was pleased to notice the advance of refined customs, and the introduction of the graces of Paris, in the elegant cotillion and quadrille. At table I was delighted in observing the style and appearance of the company, males and females intermixed in the true French usage of 'Sans Souci.' The board was supplied in profusion, not only with a rich variety, but with the luxuries of more sunny climes. There was a large display of servants, handsomely attired, while the music of a choice band enlivened the occasion.

"In the afternoon, we arrived at Congress Hall, in Saratoga. This is a large hotel, three stories high, with galleries in front, but far inferior to the 'Sans Souci' in dimensions and appearance. The Saratoga Springs, since my first visit, have obtained great celebrity for their extraordinary medicinal properties. They are esteemed more efficacious than the Ballston waters. Saratoga is proving a formidable rival to Ballston, and it is probable will acquire the fashionable ascendency, and eventually become the Bath of America."

Mr. Jacob Cohen, of Charleston, S. C., was a guest at the Sans Souci during the seasons of 1812-13-14, and in all a score of seasons, the last in 1870. He said on his last visit, speaking of earlier days: "There was no place like Ballston, and no hotel like the Sans Souci, tho' I have visited all the famous watering places on this continent." Mr. Cohen died in 1871.

The Ballston Spa Gazette in its issue of June 10, 1823, said: "Yesterday morning the bell of the Sans Souci announced the arrival of its guests. Since last season the property of Mr. Low has been transferred to Mr. Harvey Loomis, of Albany, and we have the satisfaction to state that the present proprietor has made great improvements which have added much to the internal embellishment of the Sans Souci Hotel. Messrs. Aldridge and Cory's boarding houses are again opened for the reception of company."

It was about this time that Peter, or "Pete" Francis, as he was familiarly called, was the *chef* of the Sans Souci. After remaining a few seasons, with the assistance of the late Hon. James M. Cook, he established himself in a small one-story-and-a-half inn at the south end of Saratoga Lake, and for many years the "fish and game dinners" of Pete Francis were famous the country over.

In 1849 John W. Fowler established the "State and National Law School" in the Sans Souci. He opened it with a faculty of eminent professors and secured a large attendance of students. At the examination in that year, Ex-President Van Buren, Governor Hamilton Fish, Horace Greeley and Henry Clay[1]

Sans Souci Hotel,

BALLSTON SPA.

The undersigned having purchased all the interest of Nicholas Low, in the Village of Ballston Spa, now gives notice to the public, that he has taken possession of the above elegant Establishment, and has thoroughly repaired the same, and supplied it with new furniture. He has engaged kind, attentive and trusty servants, and Ladies and Gentlemen may be assured that the house will be kept in as good style and order as any establishment of the kind in the Union. He flatters himself that with renewed exertions, added to the former reputation of the house, its *pleasant and healthy location, the numerous Mineral Waters in its vicinity*, and the exertions which will be made for the comfort, convenience and pleasure of the visitors, that he shall receive that patronage which has been so liberally bestowed on the establishment for the last *fifteen years*, by visitants from all parts of the world. For the convenience of *valetudinarians*, there will be constantly kept in the house the different kinds of Mineral Waters produced in the neighborhood, in a pure state. His LIQUORS will be choice and select, the most of them having been in the cellar for many years. Several Lines of Daily Stages stop at the above establishment, and Coaches for parties, or single horses, can at all times be had on short notice.

As the undersigned intends to make this place his permanent residence, the SANS SOUCI will at all times be open for the reception of company. As he has been at great expense to set up the Establishment, and will use his utmost exertions to render the same pleasant, agreeable and inviting, he trusts that a liberal community will not be disappointed in him, nor he in them.

Ballston Spa, May 1st, 1823.

H. LOOMIS.

Packard & Van Benthuysen, Printers, Sign of Franklin's Head, 135 South Market-street, Albany.

A Circular of 1823.

were present, the great Kentucky commoner delivering a memorable address to the students in the afternoon, and Horace Greeley speaking in the evening. Ex-President Tyler was present at the commencement in 1850. This school had a brief existence of three years.

The Sans Souci was again opened as a hotel, and so continued until, in 1863, Rev. D. W. Smith, of the Galway Ladies' Seminary, purchased the property and removed his large boarding school to Ballston Spa.

[1]The warm friendship existing between Henry Clay and John W. Taylor made him a visitor at the Sans Souci, and at the home of his friend, season after season. One of these visits is mentioned in the biographical sketch of Mr. Taylor.

During the memorable Presidential campaign of 1860, in which he was a candidate for President, Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, on July 25th, spoke briefly to a large assemblage from the

Ballston Spa House, erected 1805.

piazza of the Sans Souci. He was introduced by Judge Scott, and began his remarks with these words: "I came not to make a political speech, but to see this pleasant town, and to visit the spot where my grandfather erected his house seventy years ago." After concluding his speech, and while the meeting was in progress, the distinguished Senator walked west over Front street to the Douglas house, at that time known as "The Institute," a military school for boys.

Mr. George Smith purchased the property in 1868, and re-opened it as a hotel, and it was occupied as such until 1887, when the property was purchased by Hon. Eugene F. O'Connor of New York, and the fine old building, still in good condition, much to the regret of the entire village, was torn down to make room for business blocks.

In 1804 the building now occupied by R. L. Carter, undertaker, on Milton avenue, was built by Mr. Low for the residence of the proprietor of the Sans Souci, and also for lodging guests; and in 1805 the Ballston Spa House was built by Mr. Low and kept as an all-year house, the Sans Souci closing after the summer season. This hotel stood at the corner of Milton avenue and Washington street, the site now occupied by the building of J. S. Wooley.

The Sans Souci barns and sheds were of enormous size, and stood on the north side of Washington street, directly in the rear of the hotel, occupying all the ground between Milton avenue and Fenwick street, and north to the present store of W. G. Ball & Co.

THE ALDRIDGE HOUSE.

This was the first large hotel. It was built by Benajah Douglas in 1792. A few years later it came into the possession of Joshua B. Aldridge. The first season under his management, the house was continuously overcrowded, and Mr. Aldridge immediately built a large wing on the west, and another on the north, for a dancing hall, more than doubling the size of the house. On a pane of glass in one of the windows of this hall, on a certain festive occasion, Washington Irving, then a guest, wrote his name with a diamond. This glass is now in possession of Mr. Waterbury, the owner of the Aldridge House, now called "Brookside." This dancing hall in after years was moved across the street, and remodeled into the large double house in which Mr. George M. Hoyt now resides. In a preceding chapter Mr. Booth has charmingly told of the life at "Aldridge's."

Built by Nicholas Low in 1804, now occupied by R. L. Carter.

THE MC MASTER HOUSE.

This house was one of the popular houses of the village. Built by Mr. Low in 1792, James Merrill was its first landlord. In 1795,

the house passed into the hands of the McMaster brothers. They built a large addition on the south, the first floor being used for a ballroom, with sleeping rooms above. In later years this addition was removed a short distance south, and for some years past has been the summer home of John E. Walker, of Albany.

The Sans Souci, Aldridge's and McMaster's seem to have been the resort of the *bon ton*, and to have attained a wide celebrity. Their fame has been preserved in the writings of their guests.

SANS SOUCI HOTEL IN 1887.

Mr. James Stuart, an English traveller, made a tour in the United States in 1828, visiting Saratoga and Ballston. In his diary appears the following:

"On the 31st of October we changed our quarters from Saratoga Springs to Ballston Spa, in a pleasant situation in a hollow surrounded on all sides by high grounds. The Kayaderosseras, a small river, runs through the village, which contains 800 or 1,000 people.

"There are only two great hotels here, the 'Sans Souci,' which is on the largest scale, and Mr. Aldridge's. There are several small hotels and boarding houses. The baths are as good as at Saratoga Springs. We are in the boarding house of Mrs. Macmaster, one of the most comfortable we have seen in this country. The house is managed by herself, two daughters and a little girl. Everything good of its kind; poultry, the best that we have met with; dinners well cooked, and coffee as well prepared as by the best restaurants in the Palais Royal. The charge, four dollars per week. But this is not the gay season, when the rate is, of course, greater.

"There is nothing to find fault with, excepting that now, when the nights are becoming cold, the beds are without curtains, and the bed-rooms barely furnished. Mr. Brown,[2] an attorney and counsellor here, and an exceedingly well informed man, is a permanent boarder in the house.

"Both at Saratoga and at Ballston doors are very generally left unlocked during the night. Shutters to the windows are not common. Clothes are left out to bleach during the night on the unenclosed greens in the villages. On my wife's applying for a washerwoman two or three days ago to wash some clothes, our landlady said that they should be washed in the house, and that she would get in a *lady* to assist. The lady, when she appeared, turned out to be a *lady* of color. It will not do here to talk of the lower classes: 'Send for that fellow,—order such a woman to come here.' Language of that kind will not be tolerated by any part of the community. The feeling of self-respect exists almost universally.

"Soap and candles are very generally manufactured at home. Wax candles are much used even in an ordinary boarding-house, and said to be almost as cheap as those made of tallow; much use is made in washing, of water run off wood ashes.

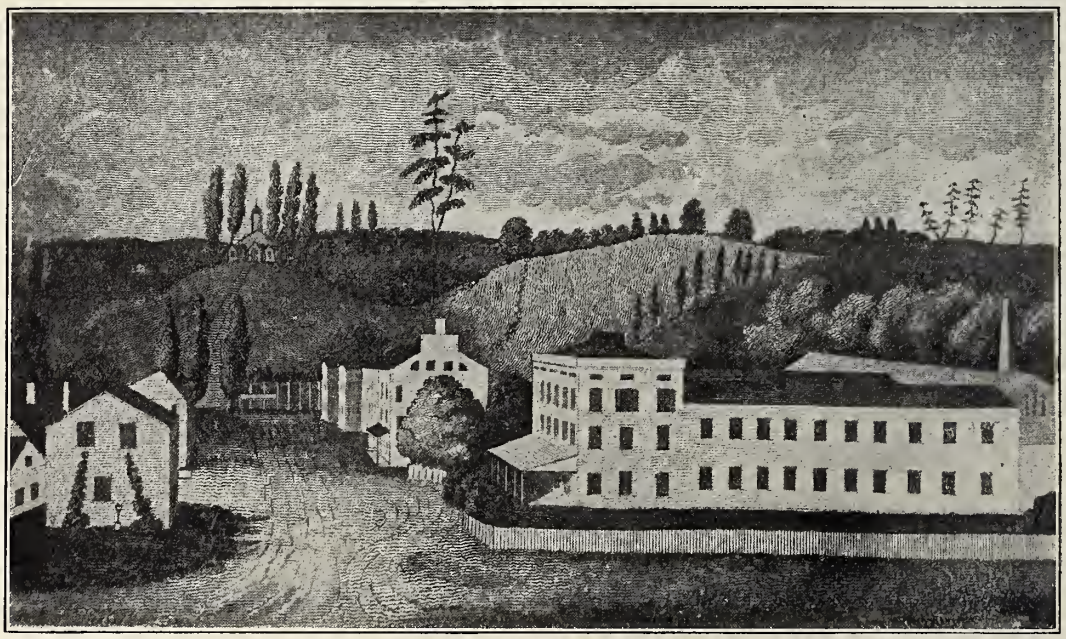
"In the beginning of October the mornings became frosty, and the ice occasionally of some thickness, but the sun had great influence in the middle of the day. During the whole month we had a cloudless sky and pure atmosphere—finer weather than I ever before witnessed at this season. The leaves of the trees began to change their colors soon after the month commenced, and acquired at different periods colors of such brilliancy and beauty as are not to be seen in Britain. The maple be-

[2]Anson Brown, who afterward married one of these "two daughters." He was an alumnus of Union College, and was elected to Congress as a Whig in 1838. His daughter, Miss Elizabeth Brown, resides in Saratoga Springs.

came of a fine scarlet, the hickory and walnut as yellow as a crocus, and the sumach of a deep red or scarlet. The appearance of an American forest at this season is altogether superior in magnificence, beauty and clearness of tint to any similar scene in other countries.

"There is an Episcopal Church here. The clergyman [Dr. Babcock] has an establishment for educating young men."

The McMaster house stood at the corner of Front and Court streets. It was destroyed by fire June 21, 1855. In 1865 the village acquired the property, removed the ruins, and used the ground in straightening Front street, which up to that time turned to the north at the brow of the hill, intersecting Charlton street just north of the present Iron Spring.



An old Drawing, about 1815. The artist omitted one story on the wing of the Sans Souci in the foreground: and also attempted to show both the McMaster and Aldridge Houses at the end of Front street The Pavilion on the hill back of the Aldridge House, and the long flight of steps leading up to it are clearly shown.

OTHER HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

In 1787 Salmon Tryon built a small log tavern at the corner of High and Ballston streets, near the site now occupied by the mansion of Mrs. Samuel Smith. In 1790, Elkanah Watson writing of his visit to Ballston in that year, says: "From Saratoga I proceeded to Tryon's, a low, one-story tavern on a hill in Ballston. At the foot of this hill I found an old barrel with the staves open, stuck into the mud in the midst of a quagmire, surrounded by trees, stumps and logs. This was the Ballston Spring. I observed two or three ladies walking along a fallen tree to reach the fountain, and was disgusted to see as many men washing their loathsome sores near the barrel. There was also a shower bath, with no protection except a bower of bushes. The largest number of visitors at one period the past summer, had been ten or twelve, and these were as many as could be accommodated." In 1805 Mr. Watson again visited Ballston. A marvellous change had taken place as he recounts in his journal. This will be found in connection with the Sans Souci.

In the year 1792 Aaron Nash built a small inn a short distance southeast of the public well. Nash sold to Charles Cook in 1815, who kept the inn for a few years and the property later came into the hands of Joseph Jennings, who greatly enlarged it, and named it the Milton House. Mr. Jennings kept the hotel until a few years before his death, when he transferred it to his nephew, Hiram Jennings. Joseph Jennings was Sheriff of Saratoga County in the years 1835-36-37. He died August 9, 1878, at the advanced age of 91 years. The brick cottage of Frank R. Wilson

stands on the site of this hotel, which was destroyed by fire April 27, 1887.

Beginning in 1798 with the front part, and

Milton House about 1825.

adding two wings in 1799 and 1800, Stephen H. White, in 1801 completed his large boarding house, just east of the present residence of F. J. Wheeler on West High street. Mr. White died quite suddenly in 1808, and his widow kept the house for many years. Mrs. White married David Cory, and after her death, Mr. Cory changed the house into tenements, and it became known as "Cory Castle." It was destroyed by fire May 28, 1873.

About 1798 Samuel Weldon built a tavern at the southwest corner of High and Ballston streets, where the residence of Miss Martha Loomis now stands. This was afterward for many years the home of Reuben Wright, one of Ballston's prominent citizens. The house was destroyed by fire in 1889.

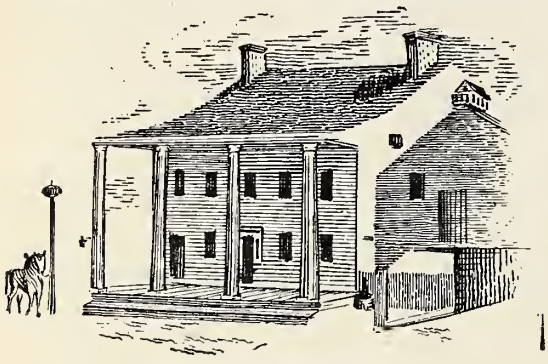
The Village Hotel (now Medbery's Hotel) at the corner of Front and Spring streets, was built in 1804, and at first had a frontage of only twenty-five feet on Front street. In 1824 William Clark purchased the property, and added another twenty-five feet to the hotel on the west. He was succeeded by his son, Nathaniel M. Clark, who added still another twenty-five feet, giving the hotel its present size. Nathaniel M. Clark sold to Stephen B. Medbery in 1847, who kept the hotel for more than thirty years. Mr. Medbery is Ballston's oldest resident, being now in his 92d year. He still retains all his faculties and a good degree of physical strenth.[1]

HOTEL MEDBERY—1804-1907.

The Mansion House of Archibald Kidd was built about 1806. It was for many years a

[1]Mr. Medbery died in October, since this was written.

very popular house, and is still standing on Front street, just east of the railroad bridge, and has long been known as the "American."



Eagle Hotel in 1820.

The Flint Hotel was west of Gordon creek, and was probably the house since known as the Boss house.

Clark's hotel was built about the same time, probably a year earlier, and stood just where the north abutment of the railroad bridge over Front street is located. Adjoining it on the east were three buildings, two of which were occupied as stores on the first floor, with residences above. The building farthest west, at the corner of Front and Charlton streets, was known as the Ball House. These hotels and other buildings were burned in 1823. Mr. Clark purchased the Village Hotel.

In 1808 J. Richie built a hotel on the northeast corner of Milton and Malta avenues, and named it the Washington House. Farquhar McBain, a prominent citizen, purchased the house in 1815, and added to the hotel property a grocery store. The hotel in later years was known as Gleason's Hotel. The Lincoln Hotel occupies the same site.

The first building on the site of the Eagle Hotel was a blacksmith shop, built in 1812. Messrs. Dake & Chatfield bought the shop and fitted it up for a trading post and a printing office. A few years later the building was burned, and the Eagle Hotel erected on the same site. James Ladow was the first landlord. This old hotel was thoroughly repaired and refurnished throughout in May of the present year, and is kept by the owner, Mr. Charles D. Sickler.

EAGLE HOTEL IN 1907.

The Railroad House was built about 1835. In 1866 Henry Harrison built a large handsome house on the site, and named it "Harrison Hotel." This house was at different times known as the Peek Hotel, Commercial, American and Plaza. The house was burned in

1893. It stood where Heeney's Hotel is now located on Bath street, opposite the Railroad station.

The Union Hotel at the north-end, on the corner of Milton avenue and South street, was built by Paul Settle, and was opened in the spring of 1860, with Adam Wilbur as landlord.

The hotels built in recent years are the Hayner House on Bath street, opened July 21, 1884, by Sherman Hayner; the Lincoln Hotel, built by James Hackett in 1890; the Heeney House on Bath street; St. Charles Hotel, Milton avenue, and Foss' Hotel at the north-end, on Milton avenue.

THE CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

The mother of Baptist churches in this section was the First Baptist Church of Stillwater. Members of that church were settled in this vicinity and were recognized as a branch or out-station as early as 1785. Frequent reference to the Ballstown Branch is to be found in the records of the Stillwater church, prior to 1791. Under date of December 10, 1785, the following appears:

"We received a letter from the Ballstown Branch that one of the brethren was turned to be a rum-seller, and they desired help from the church. We appointed some brethren to go over to their assistance, and the brother was gained to our satisfaction."

In 1791 their records show a list of twenty-four "Ballstown brothers and sisters who have taken their letters to form a new church at Ballstown Springs."

The First Baptist Church of Ballston Spa was organized in 1791 from this colony of twenty-four members of the First Stillwater Church. It was the first religious society instituted in the village. At this early period the church met from time to time in the homes of its members. In the year 1793, they secured for the Sunday services a school-house near the locality now known as the "V corners," about one mile south of the village. A small tavern had been built at this point by Micajah Benedict, and a small hamlet of some half dozen houses had sprung up. In this school-house the little company of believers held their services for ten years, their pulpit being supplied from time to time by Rev. Mr. Mudge and Rev. Elisha P. Langworthy.

In 1797 the church became a member of the Shaftsbury Association under the name of the Second Milton church, and reported that year a membership of twenty. In 1798 there were twenty-nine members; but in 1799, under the powerful preaching and consecrated efforts of Elias Lee, a revival of great interest increased the membership to ninety-four.

In 1800 the church settled its first pastor, Rev. Elias Lee, who came from the First church at Troy. He continued to serve the church with great acceptance for twenty-eight years.

In 1802 the church was incorporated under the laws of the State, and the following year Elias Lee made a gift to the church of a large lot, and a meeting-house was erected. It stood in the northeasterly part of the present village cemetery a little north of the public vault. The pulpit in this meeting-house is said to have been almost directly above the place where Mr. Lee was buried. This was the first house of worship erected in the village.

In 1805, this church with twelve other Baptist churches withdrew from the Shaftsbury Association and organized the Saratoga Baptist Association.

At this point Mr. Booth, in his unpublished history, says:

"Elias Lee as early as the year 1800 had purchased the land now comprising the village cemetery, and for some distance south and westward on the Garrett road. He built and resided in the old house yet standing on that road, afterwards occupied by Aaron Nash.[1] He was a gunsmith by trade, but being a man of great piety and religious enthusiasm, and a constant student of the Bible, he became a powerful and popular religious preacher of the Baptist persuasion. Owing to his efforts a large congregation of that denomination was gathered together. On November 2, 1802, we find a record of a meeting of the Baptists held 'at the school-house, their usual place of worship,' for the purpose of legally incorporating their Society. William Stilwell, Joseph Robinson, Nehemiah Seeley,

[1]The old red house which stood on the north side of the Garrett road, a little west of Ballston street, in later years occupied by James Newcomb.

THE CHURCHES OF BALLSTON SPA, 1907.

Elihu Roe and Jonathan Peckham were elected Trustees, and it was voted that the Society should be known 'by the name and title of the Baptist Church and Society of Ballston Springs.' This deed of incorporation is signed by Elias Lee, Elder, and William Stilwell, deacon, and witnessed by John Blood and Joseph Garrett.

"Elder Lee, by his personal contribution,[2] and some little help from his congregation, succeeded in erecting the first church edifice in the village. It stood on the lot known as the 'old burying ground,' in the present cemetery. It was built in 1803. In 1816 Nicholas Low presented this congregation with a lot nearer the inhabited portion of the village. It was located on the east side of Science street, where the railroad crosses that highway.[3] The church was removed to this site, where it remained until after the railroad was built, when the church finally located on the present site, erecting their house of worship here in 1835, on land purchased of the late Stephen Smith. The trustees at the time of the first removal were William Stilwell, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Sen., John Ayrs, Elihu Roe, Owen Sage and Simeon P. Allcott."

The edifice mentioned above by Mr. Booth was the large stone church which stood at the head of Front street, and in which the Baptist Society held its services for sixty years. The last services in this church were held Sunday, December 13, 1896.

The present church edifice, on the east side of Milton avenue, between Van Buren and Ford streets, is one of the finest in Northern New York. It was dedicated December 20, 1896. The old church was taken down, and its site is now occupied by the Manogue business block.

The pastorate of Elias Lee, the longest in the history of the church, was marked by special revivals in 1811, when forty were baptized, and in 1819 when sixty were baptized. At his death in 1829 the church numbered 143.

The second name on the roll of pastors is that of William E. Waterbury, who served the church between 1830 and 1833.

Sylvester S. Parr became pastor November 1, 1833. His short pastorate of less than two years was a season of continuous revival; 119 were baptized the first year, and 36 the second.

In the letter of the church to the Saratoga Baptist Association in 1835, we find the following:

"We have purchased a site for a new place of worship, in the most central and eligible part of the village, and design early next season to erect a commodious and elegant stone building on the above mentioned site, which we trust will be a birth-place for souls, even after we who now fill the church are dead. We have money enough, if we only had hearts to use it, which we trust God is stirring us up to do."

The corner-stone of this church was laid in October, 1835. Rev. Sylvester S. Parr, was pastor; Samuel R. Garrett, Barnabas Crossman, Abram Middlebrook, Sylvester Blood, Hiram Middlebrook, deacons; A. T. Davis, clerk.

This meeting-house was for a number of years the largest and finest in the county. There were galleries on three sides, with the pulpit at the rear of the church, a style just then coming into vogue. The church would accommodate nearly one thousand people.

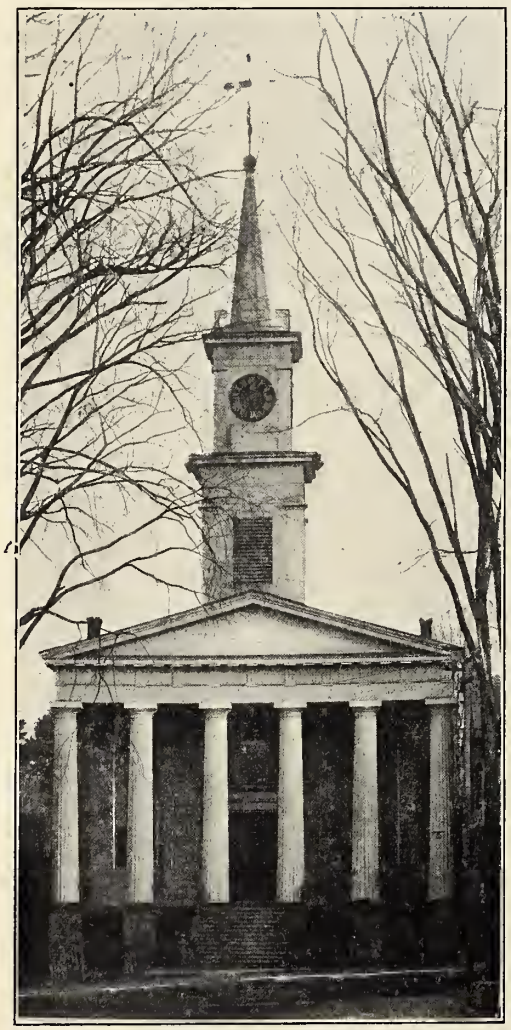
Charles B. Keyes became pastor in February, 1836, and served the church fourteen months.

Norman Fox became pastor March 26, 1838, and held that office nearly twelve years, resigning October 21, 1849. This period was the golden age in the spiritual prosperity of the church. In 1839, 76 converts were baptized; and as the result of a still more powerful revival in 1843, 138 were received by baptism. It was at this time that the church reached its high-water mark of 417 members. Some of the older members of the church were wont to tell of that most memorable scene when on a beautiful Sabbath morning in the month of June, 1843, "Elder" Fox gave the hand of fellowship to a large company of believers, more than one hundred in number, recently baptized, the line of new members extending from either side of the pulpit to the outside aisles and completely

[2]Elder Lee is said to have mortgaged his farm to obtain the money necessary to complete the meeting-house.

[3]Where the railroad water-tank now stands. The deed is dated June 19, 1816, and is from Nicholas Low to William Stilwell, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Jr., John Ayrs, Elihu Roe, Oren Sage and Simeon P. Allcott, trustees of Baptist Church of Ballston Spa. The consideration is $1. The deed contains the following provision: "Trustees allowed to convey same to any religious denomination except Antitrinitarians."

around the church. Mr. Fox first entered the legal profession, and was thrice elected to the Assembly, in the years 1819, 1820, 1830. He afterward studied for the ministry. Elder Fox is buried in the village cemetery. A plain white marble slab marks his grave, bearing this inscription: "Norman Fox, born Sept. 17, 1792, died Oct. 3, 1863." "My flesh shall rest in peace."



Baptist Church—1835.

Orrin Dodge became pastor March 24, 1850, and closed his ministry November 8, 1851.

Joseph Freeman became pastor May 1, 1852, and served just one year.

L. W. Hayhurst became pastor in November, 1853, and closed his ministry February 8, 1857.

The shortest pastorate was that of E. S. Widdemer, which lasted but eight months, from May 3, 1857. Mr. Widdemer afterward became a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

William Gróom was called to the pastorate from his studies at Rochester Theological Seminary March 28, 1858. He was the first pastor ordained by the church.

William O. Holman became pastor in 1862, and served the church three years. This was during the stirring days of the civil war, and his intense patriotism was hardly excelled by his zealous work for the church. October 25, 1863, Mr. Holman preached a memorial sermon for Elder Norman Fox, who died on the third day of that month.

P. Franklin Jones served the church as pastor from November, 1865 to May, 1867.

George W. Clark, D.D., became pastor March 1, 1868, and resigned June 25, 1873.

Elias H. Johnson, D.D., accepted the pastorate February 7, 1874, but retained the office only about one year. Dr. Johnson a few years later became one of the faculty of Crozer Theological Seminary, where he remained until his death in 1905.

Robert T. Jones was called to the pastorate May 1, 1875, at the close of his studies at Colgate Seminary. He was ordained June 24, 1875. The temporary failure of his health induced his resignation November 26, 1879.

William T. C. Hanna began his labors with the church February 1, 1880. His pastorate extended over a period of a little more than ten years. He resigned August 1, 1890, to become pastor of the Baptist church at Bradford, Pa.

William T. Dorward succeeded to the pastorate December 1, 1890, and served the church until January 28, 1894.

Gove Griffith Johnson received a call to the pastorate June 2, 1894, just at the conclusion of his studies at Colgate Seminary. He was ordained June 28, and served the church with great acceptance for five and a half years, resigning the charge January 1, 1900. It was during his pastorate that the present beautiful church was built, at a cost of $30,000. The corner stone of the church was laid by Mr. Johnson with impressive ceremonies in the presence of a very large assemblage, on June 6, 1896, and the dedication of the house to

public worship was on Sunday, December 20, of the same year, Rev. G. J. Johnson, D.D., father of the pastor, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

An incident in connection with the laying of the corner-stone is worthy of record. The church officials desired to place in the corner-stone of the new church the copper box and its contents which were contained in the corner-stone of the old church. A search for the stone at the front corners of the church was unavailing, when Miss Melinda Seeley, one of the oldest living members of the church made the remark that she knew the copper box was there, for she remembered as a young girl, seeing it placed in the corner-stone when it was laid by the Masonic Lodge. Mr. Frank R. Wilson, a mason by occupation as well as a member of Franklin Lodge, who was searching for the stone, immediately went to the "north-east corner" at the rear of the church, and in a few minutes took the old corner-stone from the wall, and delivered it with copper box and contents intact, to the church officials. There is only one other instance on record in Saratoga county where the corner-stone of a church has been laid by the Masonic fraternity.

The present fine edifice on "the flat," is a grand memorial to one of the best loved and most faithful pastors of this old Church Society.

As successor to Mr. Johnson, the church again called a young man fresh from his studies at Rochester Theological Seminary, and on June 21, 1900, Arthur C. Baldwin was ordained to the gospel ministry, the first ordination in the new meeting-house. His pastorate continued for nearly six years, ending March 5, 1906. He was faithful and zealous in the work of advancing all the interests of the church.

Arthur B. Potter, the present pastor, was installed May 1, 1906.

From earliest days and until 1866, the ordinance of baptism was administered in the waters of the Kayaderosseras, the Blue Mill pond and the Red Mill pond. The record states that "on Sunday, December 3, 1865, Mary A. Garrett and Jane Fox McClew were baptized in the Red Mill pond." The writer recalls the occasion, and that the ice, several inches in thickness, was removed for a considerable space, to permit the ceremony. January 7, 1866, John McIntosh, Joseph Morris, Theresa Morris, Mrs. H. Middlebrook, Alice Hubbell, Fanny Bartow and Ada Knox were immersed in the new baptistry in the church, the first time it was used. From that time the beautiful custom of repairing to the water-side for this solemn ceremony has given place to the more convenient observance within the sanctuary.

The history of this pioneer church of Ballston Spa is a long and proud record of good work faithfully performed. The present church officers are: William L. Maxon, clerk; H. H. Ferris, S. H. Coons, R. N. Garrett, E. R. Wooley, Wm. H. Sipperly, A. N. Wiley, Thomas Green, Deacons; H. H. Ferris, A. N. Wiley, J. S. Wooley, W. H. Tibbetts, Lester Streever, E. J. Briggs, Trustees.

The parsonage was a gift to the church from Mrs. W. J. Parkinson, formerly Mrs. Isaiah Blood. It is on the west side of Milton avenue, between Ford and Prospect streets.

ELIAS LEE.

At the centennial of the church held October 11, 1891, a biographical sketch of the first village pastor was read by Rev. H. L. Grose, in which he said:

"Elias Lee was born at Danbury, Connecticut, in 1765; he was schooled in the Danbury Academy, and received for that time a liberal education. He engaged in school-teaching for a time, and was licensed by the Danbury Baptist Church 'to preach the Gospel wherever his lot might be cast.' A daughter of Elder Langworthy, Mrs. A. L. Crosby, of Riverside, Illinois, says of Mr. Lee: 'He was a student, and scholarly when compared with my father and other ministers of that day. He was regarded as a powerful preacher and a good man, unexceptionable in his daily walk and conversation.'

"Mr. Lee was of fine presence, in stature above the medium height, and well proportioned. Whenever he began to speak every ear was open to the pleasant tones of his musical voice; a voice of great strength and compass, which he modulated to suit the occasion, so that in pulpit, in the court house, in a school-house, in a barn, or in the open air, its tones were rich, clear and silvery: never harsh and shrill, even when loud enough to be heard at a great distance. His hearers were always attentive, because they knew he never, on any occasion, arose to speak without having something valuable to communicate. Doctors, judges, lawyers, county officials and resident representatives in the State Legislature and in Congress, were regular attendants upon his ministrations in the first meeting-house of the church. A stronger testimonial of his ability and worth need not be sought. He was generous in his

care for the poor. He was rated in the community as among the wealthy of that day, and none were permitted to exceed him in contributions to the cause of Christ. The proof of this is in the fact that he mortgaged one of his farms to obtain the money wherewith to complete the first meeting house. For many years he gave his services to the church free of all receipts from its treasury."

A plain slab of white marble marks the grave of Mr. Lee in the village cemetery. It bears this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Elder Elias Lee, pastor of the Baptist church at Ballston Spa, who died December 26th, 1828, in the 64th year of his age. 'They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.' Daniel ch. xii, v. 83."

ELISHA P. LANGWORTHY.

"Elder" Langworthy made his home in Balls-town about the year 1790. He frequently preached for the newly organized Baptist church, but was not ordained to the work of the ministry until December 18, 1800, when he became the first pastor of the Baptist church at Saratoga Springs.

Mr. Sylvester, in his history of Saratoga county, says:

"His home was at Ballston Spa, and he often came on foot to meet and preach to his people. In the cold weather he came through the drifted snow, and before going to the pulpit would shake hands with every person present, and then, with overcoat and mittens on, preach his sermon; then have an intermission, and after that another sermon; and then part with them, to meet on the next Sabbath. In those days they had no stoves, and so did not see fire from the time they left home until they reached it again. A cold lunch was in order on those wintry Sabbaths. The church was largely increased under his labors."

It has been incorrectly stated that he "was afterward settled over the church in Ballston Spa." Elder Langworthy was never pastor of the church in this village. His home was here all through his pastorate of nineteen years in Saratoga. He was a neighbor and contemporary of Elias Lee, who became pastor in Ballston Spa a few months before Elder Langworthy became pastor at Saratoga. He died at his home in this village December 10, 1827, in the 61st year of his age. Elias Lee died the following December, and was pastor here at the time of his decease.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The second church in Ballston Spa was St. Paul's Episcopal, organized in 1810, Rev. Joseph Perry, rector.

"CHRIST'S CHURCH IN BALLS-TOWN."

As early as the Revolution a small society of churchmen existed in the Ball-Town settlement, but with no defined organization or pastor. Shortly after the war their numbers were increased, and in 1787, through the efforts of a Missionary from St. Peter's church at Albany, the parish of Christ Church was organized by Thomas Smith, Ezekiel Horton, James Emott, Edmund Jennings, James Mann, Elisha Miller, Salmon Tryon, and forty-two others. The same year the congregation sent a letter to the Episcopal Convocation held in Albany in June, requesting recognition. It was not until 1792, however, that regular Sunday services were held. In 1791 the erection of a church edifice was commenced on the "middle line" road, a short

Episcopal Church built at Ballston Centre in 1791. This building was removed to Ballston Spa in 1817.

distance south of the present Presbyterian church at Ballston Centre, and in the spring of 1792, Rev. Ammi Rogers, the first settled pastor of the church began his ministrations in this building. He proved himself in the earlier years of his priesthood a faithful and zealous pastor, enterprising and untiring in his labors for building up his church. In the year 1796 he formed the parish of St. James, at Milton Hill. The church stood near the present school house. In 1842 the services of this parish were discontinued, the members uniting with Christ Church, Ballston Spa.

April 1st, 1793, a meeting was held in the church in Balls-town, for the purpose of organizing under the statute of 1784 in regard to religious societies. Ammi Rogers appeared as Rector. Elisha Benedict and Joseph Bettys, Sen., were chosen Wardens, and Thaddeus Betts, John Wright, Joshua Bloore, Jabez Davis, Richard Warn and James Emott, Vestrymen. They organized under the style and title of "The Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ's Church in Ballstown." The certificate is signed by Elisha Benedict and Joseph Bettys, Sen., and witnessed by Beriah Palmer and Gideon Putnam.

On the first day of September, 1793, the church was consecrated to public worship according to the rites of the denomination, by the Rev. Samuel Provoost, the first Bishop of New York. The letter asking consecration was signed, by order of the vestry, by James Emott, their clerk, and witnessed by Henry Walton.

Mr. Rogers was Rector of the parish until 1805, when he was succeeded by Rev. Frederick Van Horn, and he in turn by Rev. Gamaliel Thatcher, who died while in charge

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

As early as 1805, during the summer months, Rev. Joseph Perry used to hold services according to the Episcopal liturgy in the village of Ballston Spa, for the benefit of the numerous visitors at the Springs who belonged to that persuasion, and June 18, 1810, we find them organizing under the statute. Joshua B. Aldridge and Salmon Tryon were chosen Wardens, and Epenetus White, Jr., Samuel Smith, William H. Noble, John Smith, Wright Tryon, Archibald Kidd, William H. Bridges and Nathan Parker, Vestrymen. The title of this congregation was "The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Paul's Church in the village of Ballston Spa," with the Rev. Joseph Perry, rector.

On the death of Rev. Gamaliel Thatcher, rector of Christ Church, the pastor of St. Paul's assumed charge of both churches. The separate congregations maintained but a feeble existence, and in 1817 it was determined to consolidate into one society, to be located in the growing village of Ballston Spa.

CHRIST CHURCH, BALLSTON SPA.

Mr. Nicholas Low presented them with a lot on the south side of Front street, a little east of the railroad bridge, and that year, under the skillful direction of Epenetus White, Jr., the building at Ballston Centre was taken down, removed to the village, and erected on the Front street lot, the united congregations occupying it under the title of "Christ Church," the name that had been given to the early church in Ballstown thirty years before. The church was reopened with appropriate services, and a sermon by Rev. Benjamin T. Onderdonk, afterwards Bishop of New York, from the text: "He loveth our nation and hath built us a synagogue." The church was consecrated by Bishop John Henry Hobart, August 11, 1818.

The first vestry of Christ Church, Ballston Spa, was Joshua B. Aldridge and James Mann, Wardens; Epenetus White, Jr., Thomas Palmer, Samuel Smith, Thomas Smith, Eli Barnum and Daniel Starr, Vestrymen.

Rev. Joseph Perry, the first rector of Christ Church, Ballston Spa, was succeeded by Rev. John Gray, Jr., who remained but a short time, and was followed by Rev. William A. Clark about 1820.

In 1824 Rev. Deodatus Babcock accepted the call to the rectorship, and served the parish with great acceptance for more than twenty years, resigning the charge March 25, 1845.

From 1845 to the present time the rectors of the church have been: Revs. George J. Geer, November 19, 1845 to November, 1852; Robert C. Rogers, December 22, 1852 to May 1, 1855; Charles Arey, May 12, 1855 to December, 1857; George W. Dean, January, 1858 to September 9, 1864; George Worthington,

November 10, 1864 to August 1, 1868; Joseph Carey, August 25, 1868 to November 11, 1873; Walter Delafield, July 2, 1874 to February 11, 1883; Charles Pelletreau, April 1, 1884 until his death on July 20, 1903; J. Winthrop Hegeman, September 22, 1903, the present rector.

During the rectorship of Rev. George W. Dean the congregation decided to build a new church edifice. With wise forethought, the church, in 1835, purchased a valuable lot on the corner of High street and Church avenue, and a few years later built a rectory on the property. Plans for a beautiful gothic structure were made by Rev. Charles Babcock, son of the former pastor, Deodatus Babcock, and on October 5, 1860, the corner-stone of the new church was laid by the Rev. Horatio Potter, Provisional Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by Rev. Dr. Francis Vinton, of Trinity Church, New York City, who delivered the address on the occasion, and other clergymen. Rev. Dr. Babcock read a historical sketch of the church which was deposited in the corner-stone, with a copy of the Holy Scriptures, the Book of Common Prayer, and a list of the communicants and officers of the parish.

The edifice was completed in March, 1862, at a cost of $11,000, and "the congregation took a sorrowful leave of the hallowed walls within which they and their fathers had so often gathered. There the children of successive generations had been baptized. There for many years the people had worshiped 'the Lord in his Holy Temple.' From its sacred altar the dead had been borne forth to burial, the sad refrain of mortality, 'ashes to ashes, dust to dust,' relieved by the glorious words of Christian hope, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' The congregation moved from the old to the new, praying that the glory of the former house might descend on the latter. The old edifice was taken down after a few years, its oaken frame still sound as when it came from the hewer's axe, fit representative of the solid men of old, who laid the foundations of our civil and religious institutions."

As an evidence of early genuine Christian friendship it should be added that the old bell which so long called the faithful to the House of God, was a gift from the North Pearl Street Dutch Reformed Church of Albany. It was cast in Holland, and bears the ancient inscription: "Benj. Whitear, Sharon in 1774. This bell is made for the High Jarmon Reformed church, Albani." This bell was hung in the belfry of the new church, and was used until 1880, when, during the pastorate of Rev. Walter Delafield, a larger and more powerful bell took its place. The new bell bears this inscription: "Christ Church, Ballston Spa, Easter Sunday, March 28, 1880. 'I am the resurrection and life, saith the Lord.'" The old bell now hangs in the tower of the Parish House.

Dr. Dean resigned in 1864, having accepted the chair of Professor of Greek and Latin in Racine College, Wisconsin. At the time of his death he was Chancellor of All Saints Cathedral, Albany, and Alumni Professor of the Evidences of Revealed Religion in the General Theological Seminary, New York. He was a man of eminent learning, and so regarded by all his colleagues in the ministry, who often spoke of him as "a living encyclopedia." Like most learned men he was very modest. Dr. Dean died March 29, 1887, and is buried in the village cemetery.

It was during the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Geer that the first pipe organ was placed in a Ballston church. Dr. Geer was a cultivated musician, and through his efforts the fine old organ which did such splendid service for half a century, was placed in Christ Church by E. & G. Hook of Boston, August 10, 1850. Dr. Geer also established the Parish School.

The church was consecrated in June, 1867, the services occupying two days. The Ballston Journal of June 15 gave this account of the occasion:

"The fine edifice of Christ Church, in this village was consecrated to religious services last Tuesday morning by Rev. Horatio Potter, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of this Diocese. A large number of clergymen were in attendance and participated in the solemnities of an occasion which drew together many people, not merely as spectators, but as devout worshippers. Eighteen persons were confirmed, among them Rev. Mr. Allen, formerly a Presbyterian minister at Ballston Centre. The evening sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Geer, of New York, formerly Rector of this church. Wednesday morning the Northern Missionary Convocation held a session, sermon by Rev. C. F. Robertson, of Malone. In the evening several addresses were made by clergymen from different places, thus closing an occasion of unusual interest to churchmen. The sermons of Bishop Potter and Dr. Geer were worthy of their fame, and the music by the quartette choir was the admiration of the assembly and of

the clergy especially. Their praise was well deserved."

In 1873 the church purchased the State Armory building on High street, opposite the church, and fitted it up as a Parish House. The second floor is occupied by the Sunday School.

The present rectory, a modern cottage of fine architectural design, was erected in 1884, at a cost of $6,500.

The Centennial of the church was observed in July, 1887. On Sunday, July 3, the services were of a commemorative character, the rector preaching a historical sermon. The services were continued on the following Wednesday and Thursday, a large number of the clergy being present, Bishop Potter, of New York, and Bishop Doane, of Albany, preaching the sermons.

The longest pastorate in the history of the church was that of Rev. Deodatus Babcock, covering a period of more than twenty years. In addition to his parochial duties, Dr. Babcock from the first had a classical school for young men, and after his resignation of the rectorship, he established the Ballston Spa Institute, associating two sons in the enterprise. This school is mentioned elsewhere. Dr. Babcock continued to reside in Ballston Spa until his decease on February 2, 1876, at the age of 85 years.

Rev. Charles Pelletreau was next in length of service, with a pastorate of nearly twenty years. In 1901, largely through his persevering efforts, the chancel was greatly enlarged, and the entire interior of the church greatly beautified. The old organ was remodeled, and some additions made, but the changes not proving satisfactory, a new organ was installed in December, 1904.

Rev. Walter Delafield was rector for nine years, and these three pastorates represent a period of half a century, and more than one-half of the life of Christ Church, Ballston Spa.

Rev. George Worthington came to this church from Troy, a young man assuming for the first time the duties of Rector. His short pastorate of less than four years was a prosperous period in the church life. The debt on the church was paid, the church consecrated, and the society greatly strengthened through his ministrations. He was an eloquent preacher, and the house was filled at all the Sunday services. A call to the large parish of St. John's Church, Detroit, was accepted, and not only the church, but the entire community felt that they had sustained a great loss with the departure of Rector Worthington. While Rector of St. John's, he was chosen Bishop of Nebraska, and is still discharging the duties of that Bishopric.

This sketch would be incomplete if it did not make especial mention of two devoted laymen of the church:

James W. Horton, who was Clerk of Saratoga County for thirty-nine years, a very unusual record, served this church as one of its officers for a still longer period. He was a member of the vestry for fifty years, and for twenty-eight years Senior Warden, occupying that position at the time of his decease in 1885. The beautiful triple window in the chancel of the church is an eloquent memorial of his worth as a citizen, and of a faithful and earnest Christian life.

Stephen B. Medbery, a brother-in-law of Mr. Horton, became a member of the church in early life. He was a member of the choir for many years. He has been a member of the vestry for sixty years, and the Senior Warden for the last twenty-seven years. He is now in his ninety-second year. His son, Stephen C. Medbery, is Junior Warden.

Of the former Rectors of Christ Church only two are living, Bishop Worthington and Rev. Dr. Joseph Carey, rector of Bethesda church, Saratoga Springs.

Rev. J. Winthrop Hegeman, the present Rector, is now in his fourth year of service.

The following are the present officers of the church: Stephen B. Medbery,[4] Stephen C. Medbery, Wardens; James W. Verbeck, Charles O. McCreedy, Frederick J. Wheeler, David L. Wood, Herbert C. Westcot, Samuel Smith, William G. Ball and Charles M. Brown, Vestrymen.

Historical Note.—Some confusion has arisen as to the chronological order of organization of the earliest religious societies, caused by the centennial observed by Christ Church in 1887. This was the centennial of the first Episcopal Church in Saratoga county, organized in the town of Ballston in 1787 under the name of "Christ's Church in Balls-

[4]Mr. Medbery died in October, 1907, since this history was written.

town." The earliest religious societies in the town of Ballstown were: Presbyterian, 1771; Baptist, 1785; Episcopal, 1787. The earliest church organizations in the village of Ballston Spa were: Baptist, 1791; St. Paul's, Episcopal, 1810. St. Paul's and Christ's Church in Ballstown were dissolved in 1817, and both societies united in the present society known as "Christ Church, Ballston Spa." This church may enjoy the unique pleasure of holding another centennial celebration within its consecrated walls in 1917.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The First Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa was formed in 1834 by a colony from the old Ballston church and some others. The number who composed the church at its organization was sixty-six. The services were first held in the court room of the old Court House, the Rev. James Wood, "a man of lovely spirit, ministering to the young church" as a stated supply until September, when Samuel Irenaeus Prime was engaged as a supply for six months, and the following June, 1835, was ordained and installed—the first pastor of the church.

The first trustees were Moses Williams, James Comstock, Edward W. Lee, Christopher Earl, Jonathan S. Beach and Philip H. McOmber. They purchased the present site of the church from Harvey Loomis, paying therefor $800.

The present church edifice was erected in 1835, though not its present size, about twenty feet having been added to the eastern end, and the tall spire built, in 1857, during the pastorate of Rev. David Tully.

The pastors and stated supplies of the church have been:

James Wood, stated supply in 1834.

Samuel Irenaeus Prime, ordained and installed June 3, 1835.

Albert T. Chester, ordained and installed October 26, 1836.

Daniel Stewart, installed June 7, 1840.

Rev. Mr. Shumway, stated supply.

George T. Todd, installed March 29, 1845.

Nathaniel Scudder Prime (father of Samuel I. Prime, stated supply from June 4, 1847 to December, 1849, when he retired in feeble health.

Richard H. Steele, installed June 27, 1850.

N. B. Klinck, ordained and installed February 21, 1854.

David Tully, installed November 24, 1855. Dismissed to a church in New Jersey, January 1, 1867.

Stephen Matoon, installed March 1, 1867. Resigned December 20, 1869, to accept the Presidency of Biddell University, South Carolina.

Samuel A. Hayt, Jr., installed July 8, 1870.

David Murdock, installed August, 1877.

A. R. Olney, D. D., installed October 7, 1881.

Henry L. Teller, installed March 29, 1893.

Arthur T. Young, installed March 15, 1904. Present pastor.

The longest pastorates have been those of Dr. Olney, 11 years and 3 months; Dr. Tully, 11 years and 1 month; H. L. Teller, 10 years; Dr. Hayt, 7 years.

Rev. Dr. Tully was Chaplain of the 77th Regiment (Bemis Heights Battalion), New York Volunteers, during the War of the Rebellion.

In its fiftieth year extensive improvements were made to the interior of the edifice, and a semi-centennial service was held on Sunday, June 6, 1885. At the morning service Dr. Prime preached the sermon, and was assisted in the service by Rev. Dr. Chester, of Buffalo, N. Y., the second pastor of the church, and Rev. A. R. Olney, the pastor. In the evening the Baptist and Methodist congregations united in the service. In the pulpit were Rev. W. T. C. Hanna, pastor of the Baptist church, Rev. W. H. Wasburne, pastor of the Methodist church, Rev. H. A. Lewis, pastor of the Ballston Centre church, Rev. A. R. Olney and Dr. Chester, who preached the sermon. All the pastors of the church were living at this time, and the church numbered 245 members.

At the morning service Dr. Prime took for his text the tenth verse of the twenty-fifth chapter of Leviticus: "Ye shall hallow the fiftieth year." A more interesting history of the church and of its first pastor cannot be given than is to be found in this sermon. After stating some facts in relation to the organization of the church, the names of the pastors, and of the first trustees and elders, Dr. Prime said, in part:

"In the autumn of the year 1834 I came one evening to the village of Ballston Spa, and took lodgings for the night at the Sans Souci Hotel.

There was not at that time a person in the village or town whom I had ever seen before. I brought with me a letter of introduction from the Rev. James V. Henry, a former pastor of the old church at Ballston Centre, to Henry Doolittle, an elder of the newly formed church in the village. Mr. Watrous, the proprietor of the Sans Souci, the next morning gave me the directions, and taking the railroad track as my guide, I walked down until I came to the cross-road which led me to the house of Mr. Doolittle. I was then nearly twenty-two years old, and being very juvenile in appearance, must have impressed him at once with the idea that I might well have tarried in Jerusalem until my beard was grown. We passed an hour or two in conversation, and then proceeded to visit families of the congregation. The next day I preached twice in the Court House, where the people were then worshipping. In the evening of that day I attended a prayer meeting in one of the other congregations, and heard an extraordinary exhortation from a colored woman who was celebrated for her vocal powers and fluency of speech. The next morning before nine o'clock I had made an engagement to supply the pulpit for six months, on a salary at the rate of $500 a year. At the expiration of that time I received a call to take the pastoral charge, and was ordained and installed June 3, 1835. The services were held in the Court House.

"When the Presbytery of Albany were here assembled for my ordination, leave was given me to visit any of the churches for the purpose of soliciting donations towards building a church for this congregation. A subscription had been commenced among the people and about half the required sum had been secured. Armed with the recommendation of the Presbytery I started on my tour, not doubting that I should in a few weeks raise the money. My first visit was to the largest rural congregation in the Presbytery. Having made my argument and appeal, I could not refrain from looking over the round pulpit, at whose edge I was sitting, to see how the money would flow into the plates as the collection was taken. The first man put in a large copper cent. The second man put in a large copper cent. I saw no more. The collection amounted to eleven dollars and a few cents. I returned to Ballston Spa the next day, called the officers together, told them the tale of the two cents, and informed them that I had finished my career as a beggar. If there was any more money raised abroad they would raise it. The subscription was renewed, and each man gave half as much as he had previously given; the house was built, the pews were sold, and the whole cost was paid. But for those two cents you might have been in debt to this day.

"The first elders of the church, all of whom were in office when I came were Henry Doolittle, David Cory, Samuel Benton, Jonathan McBride and Isaac N. Beach. These were men of decided individuality; no two of them were alike, yet they were all good men, all loved this church as they loved an only child, and all gave time and labor most freely to it. The affection which they showed to me, their boy pastor, was something wonderful. They bore me on their hearts, and would have carried me back and forth to church in their arms if it had been needful. Instead of going on with this discourse, I would like to spend an hour in relating anecdotes of these venerable men, illustrating their gifts, graces and peculiarities. But that would be more entertaining than edifying.

"That first year of my ministry was one of great spiritual enjoyment and progress. The elders of the church and some others were enthusiastic in Christian work, and several days every week were given to visiting from house to house, with lectures and prayer meetings in the evening. It did not seem to me that there was any danger of my breaking down, but in less than a year I was used up. The church building, of which I laid the corner stone in the early summer, was completed in the autumn and dedicated. I left the village the next day. After an absence of six months, when no prospect of good health appeared, I resigned the pastorate, and was dismissed by the Presbytery.

"After leaving Ballston I took charge of the Academy at Newburgh. Then I became pastor of the church in Matteawan, where I remained three years. Again total failure of health compelled me to abandon the pulpit. I wrote to my father that I must give up preaching, and he sent back this comforting message: 'God help you, my son, you are fit for nothing else.' But in the spring of 1840 I became one of the editors of the New York Observer, where, with the exception of a brief interval, I have continued to the present time, covering a term of forty-five years.

"I have from the beginning of the half century set one single object before my mind as the grand purpose of life; it has governed my whole being, moral, intellectual and spiritual; it has absorbed my affections; stimulated my ambition; exhausted my energies; taxed my faculty of invention; rising early and sitting up late; in travel abroad and study at home; in public and private, in pulpit and the press, I have had this as my single purpose, and the chief end of life: not to win wealth or fame, but to be *useful.* Alas, and again alas! that there is so little to show for it, and this half century has come so far short of the good purposes with which it was commenced."

The closing words of the sermon were spoken with great pathos, thrilling the audience, and visibly affecting the speaker himself. And how prophetic his words in speaking of the former members of the church. Stepping from behind the desk, and advancing to the edge of the platform, Dr. Prime said:

"I have lived to be the longest in service of any editor of a secular or a religious newspaper in the city of New York. Of the Presbytery of New York into which I was received in 1840, I am the sole survivor to-day. The ministers with whom I was early associated in Christian work, and with some of

whom I formed the warmest friendships, are all with the prophets before the throne.

"We a little longer wait,
But how little none can know."

"The remnant of life, be it long or short, shall be his, to whom Father, Son and Holy Spirit shall be glory in the Church throughout all ages.

"There is a strange sensation as I finish these remarks; the people to whom I ministered fifty years ago are not here; they may be listening within

The Samuel Irenaeus Prime Memorial Window.

the veil; I see them not, but I shall see them again! Who is this coming up out of the wilderness, leaning on her beloved! It is the Church, the bride, the Lamb's wife—the sixty-six of the year 1835. O! thou art fair, my love, my dove, my undefiled; beautiful as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem; the king shall greatly desire thy beauty, and thou shalt stand before Him not having any spot, or wrinkle or any such thing, for thy light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee!"

Dr. Prime became one of the leading men of the Presbyterian denomination. He also achieved distinction as an editor and as an author. His first sermons were to this congregation, and his sermon on this anniversary occasion was almost his last. The following Sunday he preached in the Second Presbyterian Church, Saratoga Springs. This was his last sermon. He died quite suddenly a few weeks later, on July 18, at Manchester, Vt., aged 73 years. He was born in the old parsonage at Ballston Centre, November 4, 1812; graduated at Union College in 1829, and at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1833. He married Miss Elouisa Williams, a daughter of Moses Williams, of this village, during his pastorate here.

In October, 1886, a beautiful memorial window was placed in the church, back of the pulpit, by Mrs. Prime, in remembrance of her deceased husband. The window represents the "Resurrection," after a famous etching by Albert Durer, the great German artist of the 14th century. It is ten feet by six feet in dimensions, the figure of Christ being nearly life size. Beneath the figure are the words of the text of Dr. Prime's last sermon: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." The window is one of the largest and finest ever executed by the Tiffany Company, of New York. Its cost was $3,000.

About 1855, Mr. Samuel H. Cook, a prominent member of the church, established a Sunday School in a small building near his cotton factory on the Island, of which he was the Superintendent, the teachers coming from this church. In 1861, the school having outgrown its quarters, Mr. Cook built a large chapel on Milton avenue for the school. After the removal of Mr. Cook to Albany, in 1866, the school was merged with the Sunday School of the church, and during the pastorate of Mr. Hayt the Sunday School and prayer meetings were transferred to the Chapel, where they have since been held. The present chapel, on the site of the Cook chapel, was built during the pastorate of Dr. Olney.

The present officers of the church are: J. S. L'Amoreaux, Wm. Clement, P. A. Gilchrist, Jacob Gervin, E. T. McClew, Chas. H. Streever, Elders: J. S. L'Amoreaux, David Lewis, Augustus Raymond, A. I. Thayer, H. C. Reynolds, F. J. Rooney, Trustees.

The parsonage is on the south side of High street, No. 76, two doors west of the County Clerk's office. It was purchased by the society March 10; 1856.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The itinerant system of the Methodist Church in olden times was a most efficient method of pioneer organization, and doubtless the "circuit rider," with his saddle-bags well supplied with bibles, testaments and religious tracts, and ready to hold a preaching or a prayer service, or to deliver an earnest exhortation whenever the opportunity offered, followed closely on the trail of the first settlers in this wilderness country. Of the work accomplished in the earliest years in this immediate locality, no record has been preserved, and it has been well said that "efforts to compile the early history of the Ballston Spa church recall the words of the Samaritan woman at the well, when she said: 'Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep.'"

The first record of the Saratoga Springs Circuit is in the year 1791. There is no record of the Ballston Spa Circuit until 1823, when Saratoga Springs and Ballston Spa were together in one Circuit, but as Ballston during the greater part of this period was a larger town than Saratoga, there can be no doubt that David Kendall, the pastor in charge, included Ballston Spa in his circuit, and organized "classes" and held services here, although no record is to be found. In 1823 William Anson and Elisha P. Jacobs were preachers in charge of the Saratoga Springs and Ballston Circuit.

July 6, 1836, a number of Methodists met at the Court House and organized a society under the name of the "First Methodist Episcopal Society of Ballston Spa, N. Y." They elected Rev. Henry Stead, Calvin Calkins, Samuel Hicks, Ebenezer Jones, Clement Patchin, Roswell Clark and Asa Beach as the first board of trustees.

For some years prior to this time, the inhabitants of the village and of the surrounding country, of the Methodist persuasion, had been worshipping in "The Academy" on Galway street. The newly organized church, which numbered eighteen members, in the month of August, bought "The Academy" building and removed it to a lot purchased of Reuben Westcot, at the corner of High and Charlton streets. This building was occupied by the Society until the year 1845, when a new church was erected on Milton avenue, on the site of the present church. The old building was sold to the Catholic Society.

The Ballston Spa charge continued as a part of the Saratoga Springs Circuit until 1840, when the Greenfield and Ballston Circuit was formed, with D. Poor, J. P. Foster and J. Harwood as preachers. This Circuit continued one year. In June, 1841, the Malta and Ballston Spa Circuit was formed, including East Line, Malta Ridge, Eddy's Corners, Court House Hill and Ballston Spa, with Joel Squires, preacher in charge, Richard T. Wade, assistant, and William Anson, superannuate.

Methodist Church erected in 1845.

In the spring of 1842, Rev. Elias Crawford, one of the Circuit preachers, became a resident of Ballston Spa. He was the first Methodist minister to make his home here. In 1843 Mr. Crawford and Elias Noble, were the preachers in charge, and in 1844 Rev. Cyrus Meeker was appointed preacher in charge of the Circuit.

In the autumn of 1844 the church decided to build a house of worship on Milton avenue. At the annual meeting in 1845, for some reason which does not appear, the entire board of trustees resigned. A new board was elected, consisting of R. R. Kennedy, J. D. Hodgman, P. H. McOmber, Z. H. Cook, Arnold Harris, Jonathan S. Beach and James W. Horton. Of these P. H. McOmber, Arnold Harris and Jonathan S. Beach were Presbyterians, and James W. Horton a Senior Warden of Christ (Episcopal) Church, but they consented to act as Trustees of the Methodist Church. The new church was completed and dedicated the same year, Rev. Jesse T. Peck, D. D., preaching the dedicatory sermon.

In 1848 H. L. Starks was appointed preacher in charge, and H. Williams, assistant.

In 1849 two preachers were appointed to the Circuit, Revs. H. L. Starks and R. Griffin.

At the annual meeting of the Troy Conference in 1850, the Ballston Spa Church was made an independent station, and Rev. John Barnard was assigned to the pastorate. The church at this time had a membership of 103, and 12 probationers, and a Sunday School of forty scholars.

From this time, 1850, down to the present, 1907, the pastors of the church have been:

Thomas Lodge, 1851.
Jacob Leonard, 1852 to 1854.
Timothy Benedict, 1854 to 1856.
N. G. Axtell, 1856 to 1858.
Washington I. Pond, 1858 to 1859.
Hannibal H. Smith, 1859 to 1861.
Robert Fox, 1861 to 1863.
James M. Edgerton, 1863 to 1866.
O. J. Squires, 1866 to 1868.
Rodman H. Robinson, 1868 to 1871.
D. P. Hulburd, 1871 to 1872.
B. B. Loomis, 1872 to 1875.

In 1875 George W. Brown became pastor, and during his second year he was transferred to the Central Illinois Conference, and Rev. R. H. Robinson filled out the year. Dr. Robinson continued as pastor until 1879.

Henry W. Slocum, 1879 to 1880.
John H. Coleman, 1880 to 1882.
George A. Barrett, 1882 to 1883.
William H. Washburne, 1883 to 1886.
E. P. Stevens, 1886 to 1889.
Joseph Zweifel, 1889 to 1892.
J. C. Russum, 1892 to 1895.
Charles L. Hall, 1895 to 1898.
W. W. Cox, 1898 to 1901.
Milford H. Smith, 1901 to 1906.
Henry S. Rowe, 1906. Present pastor.

During the closing year of the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Egerton the greatest revival in the history of the church occurred. The revival began with the coming of the "Troy Praying Band," a company of devoted Christian laymen of Troy and Albany, organized by Joseph Hillman for religious work, and for many years a great power in the Troy Conference. The "Praying Band" conducted the services every evening for two weeks or more, the church, with its large galleries on three sides, being crowded at every service. More than two hundred professed conversion and the work continued into the next pastorate. The audience room of the church was repaired and greatly beautified during this pastorate, Mr. Edgerton, who was not only a good preacher, but a fine artist, doing the frescoing and decorating in a masterly style.

The church was enlarged in 1868 by the addition of twenty feet at the rear, to accommodate the constantly increasing congregation, the membership at this time being reported as 268; probationers, 26; Sunday School, 237.

In 1872, the first year of the pastorate of Rev. B. B. Loomis, a parsonage was built adjoining the church on the north and rear. At the close of his pastorate, Mr. Loomis reported 315 members and 101 probationers.

In the winter of 1882, the pastor, Rev. George A. Barrett, united with Revs. A. R. Olney of the Presbyterian church and W. T. C. Hanna, of the Baptist church, in a series of union services, which resulted in a great religious awakening, and large numbers were added to each of the three churches. Pastor Barrett also succeeded in paying off the church debt, and the property was freed from all incumbrances for the first time since the church was built in 1845.

In the second year of the pastorate of W. H. Washburne, Hon. George West built a chapel, for Sunday School and other services, on South street, and presented it as a gift to the church. Sunday School and week-day services have been held regularly in this chapel to the present time. At this time the total membership was reported as 425.

In the last year of Mr. Zweifel's pastorate, the project of a new church edifice was started, and through his efforts $6,500 were pledged, Hon. George West agreeing to pay one dollar for every dollar paid by the rest of the people, provided that the society would raise at least $10,000. In 1892 Rev. J. C. Russum became pastor, and taking up the work where Mr. Zweifel left it, he carried it through to ultimate success.

The last services were held in the old church on Sunday, September 11, 1892, and the next day the work of demolishing the building and the parsonage was begun. While the new church was building, the congregation worshipped in Odd Fellows' Hall. The corner-stone of the new edifice was laid October 19, 1892, and on Sunday, December 17, 1893, the dedication took place. At the morning service Bishop John P. Newman preached the dedicatory sermon, and in the evening Rev. John H. Coleman, a former pastor, was the preacher. In a history of the church compiled by Rev. M. H. Smith, he says: "The building of this large and beautiful church was made possible through the large-hearted generosity of Hon. George West. His subscription, which covered one-half of the entire cost was more than paid." The total cost was about $30,000.

Mr. West died in 1901, the first year of the pastorate of Rev. Milford H. Smith. In his will, executed September 11, 1893, when the new church was approaching completion, he bequeathed to the Methodist Society the sum of $5,000, in trust, the interest to be applied to church and Sunday School expenses. Mr. Smith continued as pastor for five years, and was the first and only pastor who has served continuously for more than three years.

Rev. Henry S. Rowe is the present pastor, and is now serving his second year.

The parsonage of the church is on Malta avenue, No. 126, and was also a gift to the church from Hon. George West, who purchased the property in 1896, placed it in complete repair, and deeded it to the church for a consideration of one dollar. The cost of the property was about $5,000.

The present trustees are M. J. Esmond, R. L. Carter, C. H. Brownell, Fred Armer, C. E. Foote, Secretary.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The first Catholic service held in the village was probably the celebration of mass more than a century ago in the ball-room of the Sans Souci, by Archbishop Carroll, the first bishop of America, who was a visitor here. After that there is no record until 1834, when Father Kelly, a brother of Eugene Kelly, a banker of New York City, celebrated mass in Ballston Spa.

From 1834 to 1840 Rev. Father Peter Havermans, of Troy, visited the Catholic families residing in this locality, holding the services of the church at their houses. June 2nd, 1840, he purchased from Samuel Hides a plot of ground on Ballston street, adjoining the village cemetery on the south, for a burying ground, and it was consecrated with the customary rites of the church.

Father Havermans continued his pastoral visits, and when, in 1843, Rev. Father Anthony Farley was made the first pastor of St. Peter's parish at Saratoga Springs, he also made occasional visits to this village, holding services in the homes of the few Catholics then residing here.

March 10, 1847, Father Havermans purchased the old Academy building at the corner of High and Charlton streets, which had been removed to that location and remodeled into a meeting-house in 1836 by the Methodist Society. This purchase was brought about largely through the efforts of Mrs. Spaulding, a wealthy Baltimorean who was living in the town of Ballston, near the present Henry Harrison farm. Mrs. Spaulding collected some money from the few Catholics residing in the town and village, giving the remainder of the purchase price herself. She also donated an organ, and was herself the organist. The first mass was celebrated in this chapel on Ash Wednesday in the year 1849, by Father Havermans, and regularly thereafter once in three months.

The successors of Dr. Farley in St. Peter's parish at Saratoga Springs were Rev. F. Donahue, Rev. Bernard Van Reeth and Rev. Thomas Daly. They exercised pastoral supervision over the Ballston parish and held regular services here. In 1850 Rev. Daniel Cull succeeded Father Daly, and was assisted by Father Lowery. Under the administration

St. Mary's Church, 1907.

ST. MARY'S—1860.
(Now St. Mary's Hall)

Rev. Father McDonough.

of Father Cull ground was purchased on the east side of Church avenue, a little south of McMaster street, and in December, 1859, the corner-stone of a large church edifice was laid. The church was completed and dedicated the following year by Bishop McCloskey. Until the year 1867 the Ballston church was considered a part of St. Peter's parish.

In 1867 St. Mary's parish was separated from St. Peter's, and became an independent and self-sustaining parish. Rev. Father Andrew McGeough was the first resident pastor, and remained in charge until 1873, when he was relieved by the Bishop at his own request, and returned to his native land.

Following Father McGeough came Reverend Father Edward Bayard, who remained as pastor until 1878, when Reverend Father Bernard J. McDonough was assigned to the pastorate. For almost thirty years this gentleman has gone in and out before his people, seemingly having the care of every individual member of his parish on his mind. Almost with his coming he conceived the idea of a better location and a new church for his parish. He sold the parsonage and church lot to Mr. Douw F. Winney, and in May, 1879, purchased the George Thompson homestead at the corner of Milton avenue and Van Buren street, with Thompson street on the west, paying therefor $10,500.

The church building on Church avenue was removed in sections and re-erected on the new parish property, being located at the corner of Van Buren and Thompson streets, the Milton avenue corner being reserved for the new church which had already begun to assume definite proportions in the mind of Father McDonough. Patiently, through summers' heat and winters' cold, he applied himself to the herculean task of amassing a fund large enough to erect such a church as would meet the growing demands of his parish. And nobly was he seconded in his efforts by the members of his congregation.

At last the time arrived which was to see the fruition of his efforts, and on July 29, 1895, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Father McDonough's ordination to the priesthood, Mr. Dennis Manogue commenced the laying of the foundation walls of the new church. The plans were drawn by Architect Loth, of Troy, and the contract for erecting the edifice was awarded to Mr. Manogue, a builder in Ballston, and a member of St. Mary's church.

The corner-stone was laid May 3, 1896, by Right Reverend Bishop T. M. A. Burke, D.D., of Albany, and on Sunday, October 17, 1897, Bishop Burke dedicated the completed edifice.

The imposing structure which now stands at the corner of Milton avenue and Van Buren street, is the largest church edifice in the village, and one of the finest in Northern New York. It was completed at a cost of $45,000, and stands a splendid monument of the faithful labors of the present pastor, Father McDonough.

The parochial residence adjoins the church on the north.

St. Mary's Cemetery is located on Church avenue. It was purchased in 1865, and consecrated with the rites of the church.

PROTESTANT METHODIST CHURCH.

The Protestant Methodist Church at Ballston Spa was organized in 1858, and in 1859 the society erected a large frame meeting-house at the westerly corner of South and Centre streets. Rev. J. M. Ashley was pastor, and commenced holding services in the new church July 3, 1859, and on August 28, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, Mrs. Ashley, wife of the pastor, conducted the service, and also preached the sermon. This is all the record that can be found relating to this church. It had an existence of less than five years, and the meeting-house was taken down in 1862.

SPIRITUALIST SOCIETY.

Spiritualism at one time had secured a considerable following in Ballston Spa. Prominent in this society were Benjamin J. Barber, Samuel Hides and John Brotherson. In 1876 Mr. Barber, who was a builder, erected for the society a hall on Bath street, which would accommodate a congregation of about two hundred. It was named "Centennial Hall." After about ten years it was practically abandoned, and is now used as a storehouse by the American Hide and Leather Company.

THE GEIL MEETINGS.

The history of the Ballston churches would be incomplete if reference was not made to the great revival in the month of March, 1895, known as the "Geil Meetings." The

meetings were held in the Opera House, the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches uniting in the work. Rev. William E. Geil, of Pennsylvania, a young man, and an evangelist of great power, conducted the meetings. Cottage prayer meetings were held for several weeks before the services in the Opera House opened. A splendid gospel choir of eighty voices was organized, and on the evening of the opening service the Opera House was crowded, and so continued through the entire two weeks. A Sunday afternoon service for men only, filled the house to overflowing. Services were also held in the churches in the afternoons. Mr. Geil was a man of fine presence, wonderful magnetism, and a preacher of remarkable force and originality. He is still engaged in evangelistic work, and since his Ballston meetings has visited almost every country on the globe, conducting revival services with marked success. The pastors, Revs. Johnson, Teller and Russum, and many laymen, labored zealously in the meetings, and more than three hundred professed conversion.

THE SCHOOLS.

The earliest school of which any record can be found was opened about 1803, and was kept in the Baptist church, which was built in that year. This school was started through the combined efforts of Revs. Elias Lee and Elisha P. Langworthy. It was a public school and was discontinued on the building of "The Academy" in 1811.

PUBLIC SCHOOL.

At a meeting of the village trustees held April 24, 1811, it was voted to raise the sum of $1,400 "by a tax on the inhabitants and freeholders of this village to be appropriated at the discretion of the Trustees for defraying the expense of erecting a school house in the said village suitable and convenient for a common school." Nicholas Low, with his accustomed liberality and public spirit made a gift of the land required, and the large two-story building so long known as "The Academy" was erected the same year. It was located on the south side of Galway street, at the head of a new street which was opened from Front street to provide ready access to the new school, the street receiving the appropriate name of Science street. The first teacher was Mr. Blain, who taught the school for two years. Mr. Gunnison was his successor in the fall of 1813, and announced in a village paper that an evening school would be opened in November in "The Academy."

The public school occupied the ground floor, and continued to be held in this place until 1836. No record can be found of the teachers who succeeded Mr. Gunnison.

"THE ACADEMY."

In the summer of 1812, a number of prominent citizens organized the "Milton Union School," to teach the "Academic, or higher branches." The second story of the new school building was secured, and in the month of September "The Academy" opened with Rev. Darius Oliver Griswold, a graduate of Williams College, as Principal. Mr. Griswold remained for one year, when he removed to Saratoga Springs, and in 1816 organized the First Presbyterian church in that village. An advertisement in the Saratoga Journal of July 5, 1815, published in Ballston Spa, says: "The Milton Union School is at present under the superintendence of Mr. Samson, late preceptor of Ballston Academy,[1] and Mr. Bliss, associate teacher, graduates of Middlebury College. The advantages for acquiring a classical education are not inferior to any other similar institution. Languages and higher mathematics, per quarter, $4.50; English studies, per quarter, $3.25. Alpheus Goodrich, Clerk." This school was maintained until 1825.[2]

"BALLSTON SPA FEMALE SEMINARY."

In December, 1823, Lebbens Booth, Principal of the Albany Female Academy, a flourishing school, purchased a lot of six acres on the southeast corner of High and Ballston streets and erected a large building on the eastern half of the premises for his Ladies' Seminary.[3] Delicate health com-

[1]Located in the town of Ballston, at Academy Hill.
[2]The opening of Mr. Booth's Female Seminary, and the announcement that Dr. Babcock, who became Rector of Christ Church in 1824, would instruct young men in the classics were the causes which led to the discontinuance of "The Academy."
[3]The Seminary lot included the present premises of Mrs. Samuel Smith, H. Vassar Haight and Frank C. Herrick. The Seminary building was divided a few years ago, and remodeled into the cottages now owned by Mr. Herrick and Mr. Haight, the Herrick residence standing in its original location.

pelled Mr. Booth to choose a country life, and he located in Ballston Spa as an ideal place for his home and school. The Seminary opened on September 27, 1824. Day scholars were admitted, although it was a boarding school. Twenty-eight of his old pupils came with him from Albany. The school was a great success from its opening day. Mr. Booth was a graduate of Union College, and also of Princeton Theological Seminary, where he studied for the Presbyterian ministry, but he was never ordained. A man of broad culture and a rarely gifted teacher, he was perfectly at home on every subject he was teaching, and never took a text book into class. An old resident of Ballston once said: "The greatest boom this town ever had was when Lebbeus Booth opened his Seminary here; it changed the whole character of the village." Failing health compelled him to give up his profession of teacher, and in 1835 the Seminary was closed. He retained his home here until his death, December 16, 1859, in his seventieth year.

In its report of the seventh anniversary of the Saratoga County Agricultural Society, held in Ballston Spa, October 12, 1825, the Ballston Spa Gazette says:

"The Viewing Committee reported as follows: 'During our interesting tour of inspection, our labors were pleasingly cheered and diversified by a short visit to the Female Seminary at Ballston Spa, on the polite invitation of its principal, Mr. Booth, to attend a public examination of the pupils of that valuable institution, which took place at that time. When we consider the solid instruction in useful and rational learning obtained by Young Ladies at this important school, we congratulate our enterprising Young Farmers on the location, in the heart of our county, of such a promising nursery for rational and agreeable companions, and instructive mothers for a succeeding generation."

BALLSTON SPA INSTITUTE.

Rev. Deodatus Babcock, rector of Christ Church, opened a classical school for young men about the year 1825, which he continued until 1846, when this announcement appeared in the Ballston Journal of May 8th: "Ballston Spa Institute—A Classical and English School for Boys. Rev. D. Babcock, Rector; Theodore Babcock, A.M., and J. H. Babcock, A.B., assistants. This school is now open in the well-known Aldridge House." In 1856 Rev. N. J. Seely and Prof. C. D. Seely purchased the property of Dr. Babcock, and continued the "Institute," Prof. C. D. Seely becoming sole principal in 1859. He continued the school as a Military Academy for about five years.

An aged resident of Charlton attended the examination at the Institute in June, 1849, and was so pleased with the exercises that he wrote a long poem extolling the institution. The poem appeared in the Journal of July 3. We copy the opening and closing stanzas:

"In Spa's romantic, gladsome ville,
With banks and dales and many a hill,
Where healing waters erst did give
To sinking life new strength to live;
Beside a lovely, purling stream,
That winds its way through valleys green,
There stands the Institute for youth,
The seat of learning and of truth.

* * * * *

This Institute whose well-earned fame
A reverend sire and sons sustain,
Gives promise—not far hence the date,
To rank not least among the great;
And future smiling years shall show
What labors well bestowed can do;
And future statesmen here shall rise;
And bards whose fame shall reach the skies."

BALLSTON SPA ACADEMY.

Rev. James Gilmour opened the Ballston Spa Academy, a boarding and day school for

Gilmour's Academy, 1865.

boys and young men, on September 13, 1855. For the first year Rev. David Tully was associate Principal. The school was located on Pleasant street, where the residence of Mr. Gordon McCreedy now stands. Mr. Gilmour had erected a large two-story building, admirably adapted for school purposes. Among the teachers in this Academy was the late Hon. Neil Gilmour, a brother of the Principal, and who in later years held the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction for nine years. For eleven years "Gilmour's

Academy was one of the prominent educational institutions of the county, and maintained a high degree of excellence. The Academy was destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon, March 12, 1865. Mr. Gilmour at once re-built, materially increasing the size of the building, and re-opened his school early in the fall. This building was also burned to the ground on the evening of October 25, 1866. Mr. Gilmour decided not to rebuild, and one of the best schools Ballston ever had ceased to exist.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

"The Academy" was sold to the newly organized Methodist Church in 1836, and removed to the corner of High and Charlton streets. Two District School Houses were built the same year, one on the south side of High street, between Ballston and Charlton streets, and a large two-story building on Milton avenue, at the corner of Hamilton street, where the St. Charles Hotel now stands. The district schools continued to be held in these buildings until the erection of the Bath street school building in 1874.

In November, 1871, an Academic Department was established in the Armory, with Rev. Mr. Davies as principal. In April, 1872, Thomas C. Bunyan was appointed principal of the Academic department, with his sister, Miss Agnes Bunyan, as assistant. "This was the beginning of the long, energetic, and honorable career of that gentleman as Principal of the schools, and the steady advance of education in this village." His term of splendid service extended over a period of twenty years.

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT, NUMBER ONE.

In 1872 the Legislature passed an Act incorporating "Union School District Number One, Milton," the territory comprising the village of Ballston Spa. In 1874 the Bath street building was completed and furnished at a cost of $23,400, and was opened with the fall term on September 14, 1874.

In 1882, to accommodate the increasing number of pupils, the South street school house was built, and first used in December of that year. Its cost was about $8,000.

In 1891 the crowded condition of the schools compelled the trustees to hire and furnish rooms outside the school buildings. In 1892 Principal Bunyan resigned, and removed to Berthoud, Colorado, where he has to the present time been engaged in the banking business. His successor was Principal H. H. Southwick, who continued in charge for five years, resigning on June 7, 1897, to become one of the faculty of the State Normal School at Plattsburg. The third Principal was Mr. L. L. Landers, who remained one year. The fourth Principal, A. A. Lavery, the present incumbent, was elected May 12, 1898.

The following year the erection of the High School building on Malta avenue was commenced, and in September, 1900, the High School, Grammar Grades and Training Class began the school year in the new building. One large room in the building contains the Public Library, and another is used for a Museum, in which there has already been collected a large number of rare and interesting curios. This edifice with its furnishings cost about $40,000. Ballston's equipment for educational purposes represents an outlay in round numbers of $70,000.

Since 1896 the schools have been under the care of the Regents of the University of the State of New York; having been duly registered and chartered March 19, 1896. During the incumbency of Principal Lavery the schools of Ballston Spa have attained a high degree of efficiency and rank as among the best in the State.

OTHER SCHOOLS.

The first private school of which there is any record was opened by Miss Pitkin, May 2, 1814. The large number and the uncommon character of some of the branches taught are decidedly interesting. The notice, as it appeared in one of the village papers, follows:

"LADIES' SCHOOL.—Miss Pitkin will open a school for young ladies on Monday, the 2d of May, at Ballston Springs, where will be taught the following branches, viz: Reading, writing and grammar, history, geography, with the use of maps and globes. Plain sewing, marking and muslin work; delineation of maps; drawing and painting on paper, silk and wood; tamboring, print work, embroidery, filigree and rice work; basket, paper, temple and shell work; artificial flowers and wax work. Terms of tuition from $1.50 to $8 per quarter, Gilding and Japaning, $15; velvet painting, $5. Ballston Spa, April 9, 1814."

BATH STREET SCHOOL.

HIGH SCHOOL, MALTA AVENUE.

SOUTH STREET SCHOOL.

Evidently in the early days something more than the study of "the three R's" was considered essential to complete the education of a young lady.

"The Academic School" was opened April 12, 1847, with Charles Taylor Harris, principal, and J. Hiram Champion, assistant. As its name indicates it taught the classical and higher English branches.

Albert A. Moor, who later became the editor and proprietor of the Ballston Journal, opened a "Select School" in the Mansion House, opposite the Clerk's office on Front street.

February 26, 1849, J. O. Nodyne opened an "English and Classical School" for young ladies, misses and boys.

A school for music, drawing and French, was opened May 1, 1849, by the Mmes. Vassas, from Paris.

A. M. White, principal, and his sister, Miss M. E. White, had an English and Classical school in 1849 and 1850, styled the "Academic School."

Rev. W. E. Waterbury opened a boarding and day school for young ladies January 3, 1859, in the house known as the John W. Taylor mansion, on West High street, now the home of John Brown. The school was discontinued the following year.

The Parish School of Christ Church was instituted in May, 1850, during the rectorship of Rev. George Jarvis Geer, and placed under the care of Miss Mary R. Smith, who conducted the school for more than thirty years with excellent success. An advertisement in the Ballston Journal of December 28, 1850, says: "This school has specially in view the thorough education of young ladies and misses."

The State and National Law School was opened in the Sans Souci in 1849 by John W. Fowler, and had a brief but brilliant career of about five years.

In 1863 Rev. D. W. Smith purchased the San Souci, and removed his Ladies' Seminary from Galway to Ballston Spa, and for four years conducted a large and flourishing school.

There have been many other private day schools, some of which will be recalled by residents of the village. Among these were the schools of Misses Sarah J. and Mary H. Watrous in 1841; Misses Sears in 1846-7-8-9; Misses Freeman in 1851-2; Miss Eveline Tryon, Mrs. Mary Lawrence, Miss Eliza Wakeman, Miss Harriet Nims, Miss Mary Waterbury, Miss Creamer, Nelson L. Roe, M. Williamson, Miss Meda James and Miss Charlotte Newton.

SOCIETIES.

MASONIC LODGES.

With the earliest settlers in Balls-town came many Freemasons. The membership roll of the first Masonic Lodge, now in the possession of Franklin Lodge, of Ballston Spa, contains the names of many men prominent in the new settlement. On this roll we find Beriah Palmer, Edward A. Watrous, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Titus Watson, William Bettys, Thaddeus Scribner, Caleb Benedict, Seth C. Baldwin, Rev. Ammi Rogers, Salmon Tryon, Micajah Benedict, Benajah Douglas, John Taylor, James Merrill, Miles Beach, Thomas Palmer, James Emmott, David and James McMaster, Samuel Cook, Samuel Young and David Rogers.

In 1794 a number of Masons held a meeting in the town of Ballston for the purpose of forming a Lodge, and on the 16th of May, in the same year, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York granted a charter to Franklin Lodge, No. 37, to be located in the town of Ballston. The first officers of this Lodge were: Beriah Palmer, Master; John Taylor, Senior Warden; Henry Corl, Junior Warden.

Meetings were held for two or three years at the residence of one of the members at Ballston Centre. The society then built a hall which stood on the south-east corner of the present parsonage lot at Ballston Centre. The Lodge occupied the second floor of this building until 1830, when the "Lodge stopped work under the great Morgan excitement." The warrant was forfeited and never revived.

In the year 1804 members of the fraternity met at the residence of William Boss, at Milton Hill, and organized a Lodge which received a charter from the Grand Lodge March 22, 1805, with the title of Friendship Lodge, No. 118. The first officers of this Lodge were: Rowland Green, Master; Asa Chatfield, Senior Warden; John Gillis, Junior Warden.

On the roll of this Lodge we find the names of Samuel Smith, Eli Barnum, Miles Beach, Amos Allcott, Moses Williams, Samuel Freeman, Stephen Seaman and Lyman B. Langworthy. Meetings were held at Milton Hill until January, 1821, when the Lodge removed to Ballston Spa. For three years meetings were held at the McMaster house, when lodge rooms were fitted up in the Village Inn (now Medbery's Hotel) of Brother William Clark, and regular communications were held in these rooms until 1835, when, during the Morgan excitement, the charter was surrendered.

For a period of seven years the only Masonic Body in the village was Warren Chapter. At the annual session of the Grand Lodge in 1841, William Saunders and others petitioned that body to renew, by special enactment, the charter of Franklin Lodge, No. 37. This could not be done, but in 1842, a charter was granted to constitute a Lodge, to be located in Ballston Spa, under the title of Franklin Lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., of which William Saunders was to be the first Master; William Hawkins, Senior Warden; Joseph Jennings, Junior Warden. The property of old Franklin Lodge was returned to the new Lodge. Nearly all the members of old Franklin and of old Friendship Lodges became members of Franklin Lodge, No. 90.

This Lodge has maintained its regular communications until the present time. From 1842 to 1845 the meetings were held in the rooms at the Village Hotel. In 1845 handsome rooms were fitted up on the third floor, in the south part of the new George Thompson building, now owned by S. Gould, corner of Front and Bath streets. In 1861 the Lodge removed to more commodious quarters on the third floor of the building which stood on the site of H. Frank's store, on Milton avenue, and ten years later removed to the third floor of the building now owned by Sanford Briggs, on Front street. For more than twenty years past the Lodge has occupied very handsome rooms in the Close building on Front street.

The brethren who have occupied the chair of Worshipful Master in Franklin Lodge, No. 90, are: William Saunders, William Hawkins, Joseph Jennings, Abel Meeker, Selden A. Emerson, Reuben Westcot, Harvey N. Hill, George Babcock, George Millham, George W. Ingalls, Simeon H. Drake, Percival G. Newcomb, Graham Pulver, Seth Whalen, Benjamin Allen, Jonathan S. Smith, Albert J. Reid, Edward F. Grose, C. Fred Wheeler, Frank Jones, David Frisbie, David H. Winne, George W. Maxon, William Spencer, Albert P. Miller, Henry C. Hale, Fred W. Watts, John Keyes, Louis J. Brown.

The officers for 1907 are: Louis J. Brown, worshipful master; Fred S. Streever, senior warden; H. Montrose Medbery, junior warden; Herbert C. Westcot, treasurer; Robert C. Pierson, secretary; Fred J. Rooney, senior deacon; Howard Armer, junior deacon; J. Franklin Kilmer, George West, masters of ceremonies; Fred Armer, chaplain; Edward F. Grose, organist; William Spencer, tiler.

Warren Chapter, No. 23, Royal Arch Masons, was organized April 4, 1808, and a charter was granted February 9, 1809, with Eliakim Cory as first High Priest; George H. Benham, King; Jonathan Kellogg, Scribe. Since 1821, when Friendship Lodge removed to Ballston Spa, the meetings of the Chapter have been held in the rooms of the Lodge.

The following brethren have served as Most Excellent High Priest: Eliakim Cory, William Anthony, Amos Allcott, Nathan Worden, Philo Hurd, William Hawkins, William Hawkins, Jr., Jonathan Edgecomb, Isaac Tallman, William A. Clark, Lyman B. Langworthy, John Dix, Reuben Westcot, Abel Meeker, Harvey N. Hill, Jesse S. L'Amoreaux, Graham Pulver, Jonathan S. Smith, George E. Terry, Edward F. Grose, William Spencer, Henry C. Hale.

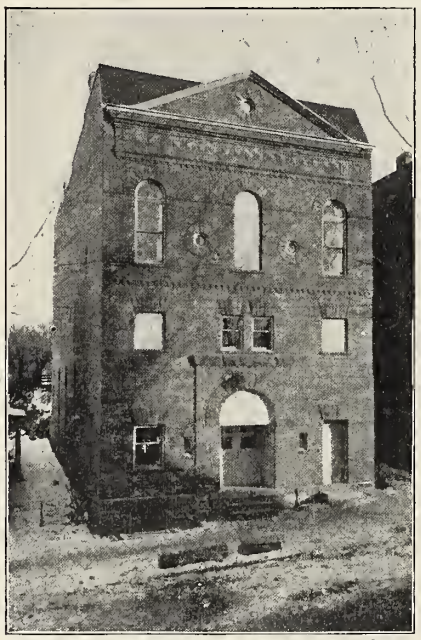
The officers for 1907 are Henry C. Hale, high priest; H. Montrose Medbery, king; Charles P. Rooney, scribe; Fred S. Streever, captain of the host; Fred W. Watts, principal sojourner; James E. Gates, royal arch captain; Fred J. Rooney, Louis J. Brown, Stephen Dunn, masters of the veils; Frank R. Wilson, treasurer; Robert C. Pierson, secretary; William Spencer, sentinel.

Franklin Star Chapter, No. 369, Order of the Eastern Star, was instituted October 6, 1905. The chapter has fifty members, and holds its meetings in Masonic Hall. The present officers are Mrs. Estelle Boocock, worthy matron; John Keyes, worthy patron; Mrs. Frank H. Gitsham, associate matron; Mrs. Frank R. Wilson, treasurer; Mrs. James McRoberts, secretary; Mrs. Robert C. Pier-

son, conductress; Mrs. G. Thoma, associate conductress; Mrs. John Reynolds, chaplain; Mrs. Edwin H. Groat, marshal; Mrs. Dora Miller, organist; Mrs. Fred Armer, warder; Mr. Leander Spicer, sentinel; Ada, Mrs. Wm. Bradley; Ruth, Miss Florence Hill; Esther, Mrs. Fred Watts; Martha, Mrs. John Keyes; Electa, Mrs. Enoch M. Scribner; Historian, Mrs. George M. Cook.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD-FELLOWS.

Kayaderosseras Lodge, No. 17, I. O. O. F., was organized January 9, 1844. The charter members were Samuel H. Cook, David Max-



Odd Fellows' Hall.

well, James G. Stebbins, William T. Odell, William Smith and Edward Gilborne. The lodge rooms were first located in the "Mansion House," on Front street. After a few years the lodge removed to the rooms occupied by the Masonic fraternity on Milton avenue, both societies holding their meetings in this hall. Kayaderosseras Lodge continued to work until 1865, when it was dissolved.

The successive incumbents of the chair of Noble Grand were Samuel H. Cook, David Maxwell, William T. Odell, Patrick H. Cowen, William Smith, Lorenzo Kelly, John J. Lee, Henry Wright, Edward Gilborne, G. V. Mix, Harrison Emerson, Squire Barrett, George Thompson, Selden A. Emerson, Spencer Twitchell, John McKown, John Wilder, James Ashmun, James W. Morris, Amos W. Cook, Daniel W. Culver, Abram Cary, Lawrence W. Bristol, George Babcock, H. P. Jones, A. J. Goffe, Isaac D. Gibbons, H. C. Hakes, Edson O. Arnold, William W. Simmons, Cornwell M. Noxon, Nelson H. Huested, Isaac H. Sears, James W. Culver, C. H. Van Valkenburgh, E. C. Foster, John C. Sullivan, Henry A. Mann, Burdick F. Davie, Joshua B. Boss, William W. Day, John H. Westcot, Edwin Miller, Josiah B. Hall, John C. Newman, John F. Bortles, James S. Garrett, Clement C. Hill, John P. Weatherwax, E. A. Frisbie.

Ballston Encampment, No. 72, was instituted November 9, 1854. This organization was only continued a few years.

A movement to revive the Order was made in 1871, and on August 24 of that year, Kayaderosseras Lodge, No. 270, was organized. The Lodge is in a flourishing condition, its membership December 31, 1906, being 158. In 1892 the Lodge dedicated the fine brick building on Milton avenue known as Odd-Fellows Hall, at a cost of about $12,000 for the lot, building and furnishings.

The present officers are Louis L. Cohn, Noble Grand; Henry Williams, Vice Grand; Francis D. Brower, treasurer; James J. Higgins, secretary; John L. Hutchins, financial secretary; Jacob A. Niles, warden; Cecil H. Finnemore, conductor; Charles Van Buren, R. S. N. G.; Horton D. Cole, L. S. N. G.; Andrew Abeel, R. S. V. G.; Charles E. Wood, L. S. V. G.; Chester Evarts, R. S. S.; Arthur Gray, L. S. S.; George Thomas, chaplain; Walter Newbury, I. G.; Joseph Wilson, O. G.

Those who have occupied the chair of Noble Grand are Abijah Comstock, Frank R. Wilson, James Chalice, Alonzo M. Shepherd, Joseph Richardson, Emmett Lee, Smith Hovey, James Humphrey, Francis D. Brower, Joseph Lewis, J. J. Hayward, Henry E. Mooney, Thomas R. Robinson, John L. Thomas, Gideon A. Tripp, James E. Webster, Tracy W. Nichols, James A. Burnham, Charles W. Estes, Robert Frear, James E. Gates, Charles H. Baker, Ira B. Fryer, George S. Brann, John N. Hutchins, Madison Bartlett, John H. Wager, Arthur Mathers, William Kinns, James A. Hovey, Charles Van Buren, John Chard, William H. Burdick, Harry E. Hawley, James H. Sim-

mons, William A. Sherwood, George W. Sherwood, Charles E. Chrisfield, George K. Bills, D. N. Hammond, E. C. Brooks, Harry J. Holness, Charles H. Garling, Frank H. Weymer, Horton D. Cole, Henry J. Cole, James White, Jr., George Earl, Addison Comstock, William H. Cowles, George Rogers, Warren P. Cole, W. W. Spaulding, James D. Reid, Louis L. Cohn.

Milton Encampment, No. 111, I. O. O. F., was organized February 27, 1889. The present officers are Archie L. Carr, chief patriarch; George Rogers, senior warden; Warren P. Cole, junior warden; James D. Reid, scribe; James H. Simmons, treasurer; Arthur Mathers, financial scribe.

Canton T. J. Marvin, No. 4, P. M., I. O. O. F., was instituted December 31, 1885. The officers are Archie R. Carr, captain; James D. Reid, lieutenant; Grover Williams, ensign. The Canton has thirty-one members.

Christina Rebekah Lodge, No. 153, I. O. O. F., was organized August 24, 1893, and has a membership of about sixty. The officers are Mrs. James Thomas, N. G.; Mrs. Horton D. Cole, V. G.; Mrs. Cecil H. Finnemore, secretary; Mrs. Daniel N. Hammond, financial secretary; Mrs. Henry Newkom, treasurer; Mrs. George De Cora, warden; Miss Belle Reid, conductor; Mrs. S. Egan, R. S. N. G.; Mrs. James A. Burnham, L. S. N. G.; Mrs. C. C. Dolch, R. S. V. G.; Mrs. S. Hovey, L. S. V. G.; Mrs. Elmer Kemp, chaplain; Miss Cecilia Castle, I. G.; George R. Earl, O. G.

The several Lodges of the order meet in Odd-Fellows Hall.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Hermion Lodge, No. 90, K. of P., was instituted February 5, 1873. The first officers were S. H. Van Steenburgh, C. C.; W. W. Garrett, V. C.; R. H. Young, P.; A. M. Shepherd, K. of R. and S.; George McDonald, M. of Ex.; Matthew Livingston, M. of F.; George Briggs, M. A.; Willard W. Brown, J. G.; John E. Coope, O. G.; M. Weiner, P. C. C.

Those who have occupied the chair of Chancellor Commander have been S. H. Van Steenburgh, M. H. Livingston, M. Weiner, J. W. Smith, Alonzo M. Shepherd, William W. Garrett, Rush H. Young, Frank Snyder, Justin L. Warriner, John McCarthy, Courtland Rouse, George B. Yott, George D. Story, Robert Groom, Luther M. Moore, Willard W. Brown, Sylvester S. Gould, John L. Coon, Frank E. Mitchell, Charles M. Arnold, James Dunk, James F. Robinson, James M. Wood, Enoch M. Scribner, Channing Barton, William Mooney, John Watson, Joseph Chilson, Charles W. Estes, Joseph R. Sheffer, J. L. Thompson, W. J. Holness, George W. Ayers, Fred C. Morehouse, A. H. Parker, C. F. Garling, Louis L. Cohn, E. G. Tibbetts, T. F. Faxon, William A. Van Evren, L. L. Ayers, J. L. Smith.

The present officers are R. L. DeLong, C. C.; W. A. Bradley, V. C.; W. W. Brown, M. of E.; H. W. Burnham, M. of F.; Wendell Townley, K. of R. and S.; J. L. Smith, M. of W.; M. D. Bradley, Jr., M. of A.; W. A. Van Evren, I. G.; William Parker, O. G.; C. F. Garling, E. M. Scribner, H. H. Ferris, trustees; J. L. Smith, James M. Wood, L. L. Ayers, finance committee.

The Lodge has one hundred and sixteen members, and occupies handsome rooms on the third floor of the Wiley building.

George West Company, No. 19, K. of P., was instituted August 17, 1888. The present membership is forty-two. The officers are L. G. Demmon, captain; R. L. Delong, first lieutenant; F. L. Blanchard, second lieutenant; Edward H. Garling, recorder; Charles Heritage, treasurer; E. S. Jones, left guide; William A. Van Evren, right guide.

McKinley Temple, No. 20, of Pythian Sisters, was organized in January, 1905, and has a membership of sixty-five. The officers are Mrs. Henry Hodsoll, most excellent chief; Mrs. Reuben L. Delong, past chief; Mrs. Braman Ayers, most excellent senior; Mrs. Hiram Morse, junior of the Temple; Mrs. D. V. G. Curtis, manager of the Temple; Mrs. James Clute, mistress of finance; Mrs. Minnie Ayers, mistress of correspondence; Mrs. Alice Groom, protector of Temple; Mrs. Jonas Smith, outside guard. Mrs. Minnie Ayers is Mistress of Finance in the Grand Temple of the State, and also M. E. Deputy Chief of this district.

ORDER OF MACCABEES.

Ballston Tent, No. 429, was organized April 16, 1896, with thirty members. The first officers were T. W. Nichols, past commander; Charles Van Buren, commander; O.

E. York, lieutenant commander; Walter L. Grose, record keeper; W. J. York, finance keeper; George S. Brann, chaplain; F. J. Holmes, sergeant; H. S. Craig, physician; W. H. Newcomb, M. at A.; D. Des Grange, 1st M. of G.; Samuel Russell, 2nd M. of G.; W. H. Estes, sentinel; Frank Waring, picket.

This is a fraternal insurance society, and insures its members in sums of $250 to $3,000. Since its organization 332 members have been admitted, and there are now 196 members in good standing. The officers for 1907 are J. Franklin Kilmer, past commander; Martin Haley, commander; Clarence Sickles, lieutenant commander; Charles Van Buren, record and finance keeper; Charles H. Baker, chaplain; John Leahy, sergeant; R. B. Castree, physician; M. B. Gleason, M. at A.; William Ellison, 1st M. of G.; Oscar Robinson, 2nd M. of G.; Laurence Gorman, sentinel; Warren C. McCreedy, picket.

The Tent has fine lodge rooms in the Sans Souci block on Front street, and meets every Tuesday evening.

Ballston Hive, No. 400, Lady Maccabees, was organized in February, 1902. It is a fraternal and social society, and insures its members in sums from $250 to $1,000. The Hive has thirty members for insurance, and two social members. The meetings are held in Pythian Hall.

The officers are Mrs. Nelson Gardner, lady commander; Mrs. W. J. Eastwood, lieutenant commander; Mrs. Vernon Bremer, past commander; Mrs. Horace Mosher, record keeper; Mrs. Edward Van Alstyne, sergeant; Mrs. D. N. Hammond, mistress at arms; Mrs. George W. Gardner, chaplain; Mrs. I. Brown, sentinel; Mrs. Chas. H. Baker, picket.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

The Young Men's Sodality was instituted in 1879, and has fine rooms in the McClew building on Milton avenue.

Knights of Columbus, organized in 1892, is a social and benevolent order, with a membership of thirty-five. It is a branch of the Saratoga Knights, and is officered by the Saratoga society.

Sans Souci Council, C. W. B. L., was organized January 8, 1902. A benevolent, social and insurance order, with a membership of fifty. The officers are Miss Louisa King, president; Mrs. William Whalen, vice-president; Miss Nettie Heninger, chancellor; Mrs. James Dower, orator; Mrs. William J. Burnham, secretary; Miss Mary Sheehy, collector; Miss Catharine Luffman, treasurer; Miss Dora Bousquet, marshal; Mrs. Mary Swift, guard; Mrs. Thomas Cleary, Mrs. Charles Morris, Miss Mena Charon, trustees. Meetings are held second and fourth Thursday of each month in St. Mary's hall.

Catholic Benevolent Legion, organized May 8, 1889, is a benevolent and insurance order, with fifty members. William H. Van Dyke is president; Henry Lowry, secretary; Thomas Kerley, treasurer; John Corning, collector. Meets first and third Wednesday of every month in St. Mary's hall.

League of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, organized in 1895 by the Reverend Monsignor L. D. Maguire, of Albany, is a religious order, devoted to good works. The League has two hundred members, divided into bands of ten members each, with a promoter at the head of each band, and all in charge of a director. Meets the first Friday in every month, and has special services in the church both morning and evening.

Ballston Division, No. 8, Ancient Order of Hibernians, was instituted June 10, 1906. The order maintains a benefit for its members in case of sickness. The officers are William A. Mehan, president; James J. O'Brien, vice-president; John F. Hennessey, treasurer; Harry Gaffney, recording secretary; Charles J. Reilly, financial secretary; Rev. B. J. McDonough, chaplain. The Order has a membership of one hundred and twenty-five, and meets in St. Mary's hall.

Ladies Auxiliary, A. O. H., instituted June 17, 1906, meets in St. Mary's hall. It is a benevolent and social order, with eighty members. The officers are Mrs. Thomas Duffy, president; Mrs. James J. O'Brien, vice-president; Miss Anna Reilly, recording secretary; Mrs. Ovid Eddy, financial secretary; Mrs. William A. Mehan, treasurer; Mrs. John F. Hennessey, mistress at arms; Miss Lizzie Jones, sentinel.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

William H. McKittrick Post, No. 46, G. A. R., was organized in May, 1875. It is named in memory of Captain McKittrick, a soldier of the Mexican and the Civil wars,

who lost his life in the battle at Fort Gilmer, Virginia. The first officers were Albert J. Reid, C.; Thomas Harris, S. V. C.; Charles Massey, J. V. C.; P. P. Williams, Adjutant; George D. Story, Q. M.; Justin Warner, Q. M. S.; James D. Thompson, O. D.; Rush H. Young, Chaplain; Charles Brockway, Surgeon; Martin Lee, O. G.

The Commanders of the Post have been Albert J. Reid, Thomas Harris, James D. Thompson, George D. Story, James Dunk, Allen S. Glenn, John Mitchell, James Wood,

SARATOGA COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS AND ALMS HOUSE.

Bryan McGinnis, George McCreedy, James L. Boocock, Rush H. Young, William H. Sherman, George F. Foster, A. J. Carter, M. H. Potter, Andrew J. Freeman.

William B. Horton Post, No. 35, Sons of Veterans, was organized in 1880. This organization is now known as McKittrick Camp, S. of V.

The Women's Relief Corps was organized about the year 1880.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The first County Agricultural Society was organized in October, 1819, in Ballston Spa. The annual meetings, which were called "Anniversaries," were held in October of each year, at Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs alternately. The Ballston Spa Gazette says "the sixth anniversary of the Saratoga County Agricultural Society was held at Saratoga Springs October 13, 1824. A very able and patriotic address was delivered by Hon. John W. Taylor, a member of the Society."

An interesting report of a committee made at the Seventh Anniversary will be found elsewhere in connection with the Seminary of Lebbeus Booth, to which it relates.

The fairs in Ballston Spa were held in the Court House, where the exhibition of farm products and household articles was made; the stock exhibit being held on the lot now occupied by the residence of Frank H. Brown, nearly opposite the Court House.

In 1841 the Legislature passed an Act providing for the formation of county agricultural societies, and the Saratoga County Agricultural Society was formed under its provisions, and the annual fairs continued to be held in Ballston Spa until 1849, when the Society voted to hold its fairs in Mechanicville for ten years. At the expiration of this period the Society located at Saratoga Springs.

The Union Fair Association was organized at Ballston Spa in the winter of 1870, and the

first fair was held on the fair grounds in this village in 1871. This fair continued for several years, when it was merged in the County Society, and the County Fair was located permanently on the grounds in this village, which were purchased by the County Society.

TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

A Tent of Rechabites, known as Delevan Tent, existed in the town of Ballston in the earliest years of that order in the United States. It was named for Hon. Edward C. Delevan, a resident of Ballston and Albany, and one of the most prominent workers in the temperance cause in the state. He was also proprietor of the Delevan House in Albany.

In 1830 Ballston Division of Sons of Temperance, located in the village of Ballston Spa, was organized with a membership of three hundred and sixteen. This society was continued for a number of years.

In 1874 a lodge of Good Templars was organized, and had an existence of two years.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

The first Young Men's Christian Association in the village was organized in 1858, with Dr. D. W. Culver as President. It was continued for about two years. In 1867 a Y. M. C. A. was instituted, with Stephen E. Garrett as President. This Association had a large membership, a good library, and a large reading room supplied with newspapers and periodicals. The Association had a brief existence of about three years.

The first organization of workingmen in the village was a "Mechanics' Association" in 1854.

The Utopian Club, a social organization of gentlemen, was organized in September, 1885. The Club has very handsome rooms in the Sans Souci block on Front street. A fine library is one of the attractions of the Club.

The Knickerbocker Club is a social and musical club organized among our young men about two years ago.

The Os-sa-hin-ta Club, a social, musical and athletic club, was organized by the young men of the village February last. The officers are William Clement, president; Louis Robbins, vice-president; Ray Foote, treasurer; Charles Steinrod, secretary. The Club has handsome rooms in the Winney building on Front street.

The Health and Strength Club, an athletic association of young men, was organized last March. Officers: Charles T. Mason, president; John Redmond, vice-president; Joseph F. Driscoll, treasurer; Maurice M. Dower, secretary. The Club has twenty-six members, and was accorded the honor of opening the Centennial Celebration with its first athletic meet.

Kaydeross Camp, No. 10,829, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized July 19, 1901, and now has a local membership of thirty-five. The object of this organization is to furnish life insurance protection at cost. E. S. Coons is the present presiding officer; William Whalen, treasurer; William L. Maxon, clerk.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized February 8, 1888. The first officers were Mrs. D. A. Forbes, president; Mrs. E. P. Stevens, Mrs. W. T. C. Hanna and Mrs. A. R. Olney, wives of the pastors of the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches, vice-presidents; Miss Mary E. Lawrence, secretary; Mrs. T. C. Kelley, treasurer. In 1889 the society established a reading room which it maintained until about a year ago. The present officers are Mrs. Andrew Hall, president; Mrs. A. A. Garrett, treasurer; Mrs. Henry Newkom, secretary.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen was organized in 1877. The present officers are Louis Cohn, Master Workman; James H. Simmons, financier; Henry Newkom, treasurer. This is a fraternal insurance order, and at one time had a large membership, maintained a lodge hall, and held regular meetings. The membership is now small and no lodge meetings are held.

The Ballston Spa Cemetery Association was incorporated June 15, 1898.

The Federation of Churches was constituted April 18, 1904. It includes the Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist churches.

The labor organizations at present existing in the village are as follows: Carpenters' Union, Painters' Union, Pulp and Sulphite Workers' Union, International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen, Federation of Labor, Trades Assembly, and International Brotherhood of Paper Makers.

The Corporation

PRIOR to the incorporation of the village in 1807 under the name of Ballston Spa, the post-office had been named "Ballston Springs," and writers of an early period spoke of the settlement as "Ball's Town," or as "Ballston." In some early deeds the place is called "Ballston Salt Springs," and also "Town of Spa," and Gordon Creek is mentioned as "Spa Creek."

Many matters of historic interest are to be found in the books of minutes of the Board of Trustees. On the first page of the first book of village records the following entry appears: "At an election of the inhabitants of the village of Ballston Spa, held at the house of David McMaster on the first Tuesday of May, agreeable to public notice, and in conformity to the Charter of Incorporation of the said Village of Ballston Spa, granted by the Legislature, in an Act entitled An Act relative to the Village of Ballston Spa, passed the 21st of March, 1807, the following persons were duly elected to the respective offices, viz: Joshua B. Aldridge, Stephen H. White, Nathan Lewis, trustees; John Warren, David McMaster, Archy Kasson, assessors; Epenetus White, Jun., treasurer; Eli Barnum, collector; William Shepherd, clerk; Elihu Roe, Samis Blakely, constables."

Copies of a local newspaper published in 1806 and 1807, make it possible to give the occupations of the first village officers.

Trustees—Joshua B. Aldridge was the proprietor of the "Aldridge House," a leading hotel; Stephen H. White, was a fuller, dyer and dresser of cloths, and proprietor of a large boarding house; Nathan Lewis was a merchant tailor.

Assessors—John Warren was a general merchant; David McMaster, one of the proprietors of the "McMaster House"; and Archy Kasson, dealt in dry goods and groceries, and was also a "nail and tin maker."

Treasurer—Epenetus White, Jr., had a general store opposite the Spring, and was the second store keeper to locate here. He was a son of Epenetus White, a member of the surveying party which discovered the Spring in 1771. Trustee White and Treasurer White were cousins.

Collector—Eli Barnum, was engaged in the saddlery and harness business, and became one of Ballston's leading merchants.

Clerk—William Shepherd was proprietor of a grist mill.

Constables—Elihu Roe was a farmer, and lived opposite the cemetery; Samis Blakely, was a blacksmith.

The first meeting of the Trustees was held at the Aldridge House (now Brookside), Saturday, June 6, 1807. All the trustees were present. It was "Resolved, That the Board meet on every Thursday of each week at the house of Reuben Ball, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon precisely, and for the neglect of punctual attendance at the hour stipulated, each delinquent shall forfeit the sum of fifty cents."

A drain of timber was ordered laid, and a dock was ordered built along the creek "to contract the width of the creek to twenty feet." The assessors were directed to make an estimate of the cost of the drain and the dock. This was all the business transacted at the first meeting.

At the next meeting held June 11 the assessors reported the cost of the drain and dock as $150. At a subsequent meeting on July 11 the Board unanimously revoked the assessment and called a special meeting of the inhabitants of the village.

There is no other record until November 14, when it was decided to accept certain lands of Joshua B. Aldridge and Nicholas Low for the purpose of improving the street near the Spring, "provided the said dock can be paid for and filled up by a voluntary subscription."

These three meetings were all that appear

in the record of the first year. The resolution providing for weekly meetings of the trustees seems to have fallen into "innocuous desuetude," and the dock and drain were forgotten.

At the second election in May, 1808, the same trustees were continued in office.

On May 28 in this year, an ordinance was passed fixing the weight and price of loaves of bread, and attaching a penalty of $2 for each violation of the ordinance. A similar ordinance was passed from time to time until about 1820. This is the ordinance:

"Be it ordained that the assize for bread for the village of Ballston Spa be as follows: A loaf of superfine flour to weigh 3 lbs. and 10 oz. for one shilling; a loaf of like flour to weigh 1 lb. and 13 oz. for six pence; a loaf of common flour to weigh 4 lbs. and 3 oz. for one shilling; a loaf of like flour to weigh 2 lbs. and 1 oz. for six pence."

At the same meeting each owner of a dwelling was required to provide two ladders for use in case of fire—one to reach the eaves; another, with iron hooks, to be laid on the roof.

At four subsequent meetings in this year the only business transacted was in relation to construction of drains. At the last meeting of the year Walnut street was established a public street. Seven trustee meetings were held in 1808.

The records show only one meeting in 1809. At this meeting it was resolved that "the stone in the channel of Spa creek be used to build a wall to prevent inundations."

A meeting of the inhabitants of the village held April 14, 1811, voted to raise by tax $1,400 for the purpose of building a school house. This school building afterwards was known as "The Academy."

FRONT STREET, 1907.

In 1813 a committee was appointed to procure from the Legislature a charter for a manufacturing company. This is the first action by the trustees in aid of the industrial development of the village.

There was evidently a scarcity of money of small denominations in 1814, and at a meeting held November 25, the trustees were "requested to issue bills under $1 to an amount not exceeding $1,000." On January 17 of the following year the inhabitants again author-

ized the trustees to issue a second $1,000 of similar bills. In a village paper, under date of March 26, 1818, "the public are informed that the trustees have made arrangements with Mr. E. D. Smith to redeem the small corporation bills, and as the trustees are desirous of closing that business, request the holders of said bills to present them as soon as possible." Mr. Smith was a merchant in the village.

June 10, 1815, the trustees decided to build a Market House on the corner of Walnut and Science streets. The house was built as appears by a later record of the renting of four stalls in the market for a total sum of $28.

In 1816 a village seal was adopted.

FREEHOLDERS IN 1817.

The first tax list of which there is any record is found in the book of minutes of the board of trustees, under date of June 7, 1817, ten years after the village was incorporated. It contains one hundred and four names, and the total assessment was $175,650. The following is the list, with the assessment of each freeholder:

Joshua B. Aldridge	$16,000	Eleanor Bradley	800	Sears & Comstock	1,400
Charlotte White	12,000	Thomas Cade	1,000	Thomas Palmer	2,500
Epenetus White	4,000	Richard Burtis	200	Joel Lee	2,000
Nicholas Low	25,000	John Harwood	200	Eli Barnum	2,000
Andrew Berger	12,000	John Welch	200	Lee & Barnum	1,100
Samuel Pitkin	1,400	Mrs. Davis	400	Lyman B. Langworthy	800
Elisha P. Langworthy	1,400	John Marchandt	600	Asa Allcox	1,000
Betsey McMaster	1,400	John Cross	1,500	Isaiah Bunce	1,000
Mary Marshall	700	Walter Geere	100	Oliver Edson	1,000
Peter Abbey	800	Mrs. Flint	2,000	Avery Swan	800
William Stilwell	1,750	William Carter	1,600	Oren Sage	1,500
Andrew Watrous	2,000	Rowland A. Wright	800	Reuben Westcot	1,100
Norman Webster	1,000	John Cutler	500	Samuel Hicks	800
Samuel Smith	1,800	Stephen Fuller	800	Stephen S. Seaman	3,000
James Doney	900	John Payne	700	Solomon Lockwood	800
Sanbun Ford	400	Mrs. Strang	500	Farquhar McBain	4,000
Aaron Nash	400	Samuel Cook	1,000	William Ford	1,500
Lewis Smith	400	John Kelly	500	Widow Foster	500
Samuel Scidmore	600	Josiah Pulling	500	Innocent Peckham	500
Evans Robbins	400	A. W. Odell	500	Elihu Roe	700
Edward A. Morehouse	400	Amos Allcott	1,500	Heirs of Wright Tryon	700
Elizabeth Simonds	200	Jonathan Williams	600	Joseph Garret	2,000
John Flint	500	Wright & Barlow	800	Hannah Peckham	200
John Bennett	800	Langworthy & Son	500	Joseph Perry	2,600
Mindwell Bridges	1,400	E. D. Smith	1,500	David Sprague	2,500
William H. Bridges	2,000	Hoff & Lockwood	500	Nathaniel & Stephen Toby	2,500
Moses Williams	2,500	James Francis	800	Margaret Purvis	1,000
James Caldwell	5,500	Anthony Wilson	500	Richard Darby	700
William Clark	1,500	Ulysses F. Doubleday	800	Hezekiah Middlebrook	1,500
Archibald Kidd	2,000	——— Barlow	300	Henry P. Chapman	1,000
Douglass Satterlee	1,000	McBain & Page	1,100	Widow Luther	600
James Merrill	3,000	John Story & Son	300	Stephen Lockwood	400
Raymond Taylor	2,500	John K. Beekman	800	James Jack	800
John Dix	200	Peter Francis	300	Stephen Fox	200
Richard Atkins	100	Allcott & Langworthy	1,100		$175,650

The original charter does not seem to have met the needs of the growing village, and in December, 1821, Samuel Cook, Thomas Palmer and A. W. Odell were appointed a committee to draft a new Act of Incorporation. The new charter was passed by the Legislature in 1822.

In 1823 it was decided to compensate the village clerk for his services, and the salary was fixed at $10.

In May, 1825, a village meeting authorized the trustees to place proper guide boards in such public places as appear to them necessary.

The village pumps needed repairing in January, 1827, and the repairs were ordered.

In 1832, the year of the Asiatic cholera epidemic, the first board of health was appointed. There were six members, and Dr. Samuel Freeman was health officer. A vigilance com-

mittee of fifteen was also appointed to see that cleanliness in streets and buildings was observed. The strict rules adopted were effective, and not a single case of cholera was reported.

At a meeting held October 31, 1835, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That this meeting deem it expedient for this village to take measures with a view to ascertaining the practicability of constructing a railroad from this village to intersect the railroad from Schenectady to Utica, in the neighborhood of Amsterdam." A committee was appointed to carry the resolution into effect. No further record as to the action of this committee is to be found.

At a public meeting held October 27, 1835, the trustees were authorized to sell "The Academy." At this meeting it was proposed to raise by tax $500 to move the McMaster house out of Front street; also that measures be taken to open Science street to High street if the Academy is sold. The McMaster house was not moved "out of Front street" until thirty years later. The house was destroyed by fire in 1855, and in 1865 the trustees removed the ruins and straightened Front street at this point.

In the year 1842 the number of the trustees was increased to five. The trustees also elected one of their number village president. The trustees chosen this year were James M. Cook, Reuben Westcot, John Wait, Nathaniel M. Clark, Philip H. McOmber. At their first meeting the trustees elected James M. Cook, the first village president.

The first mention of a village attorney is found in the records of 1844.

The village decided in 1846 to light the streets, and the trustees appointed a committee "to ascertain how many street lamps were wanted, and the cost." This public improvement was carried out, for in the following year the trustees ordered the street lamps repaired and the number increased.

St. Mary's Parochial Residence. MILTON AVENUE.

At a meeting of the trustees on July 27, 1847, it was "Resolved, That Isaac Fowler be and is hereby requested to invite the attendance of General Tom Thumb at this place at his pleasure. Resolved, That Mr. Fowler be requested to state to the little General that there are no *small men* in Ballston, it being a free port, and that the inhabitants and visitors of this place would be happy to greet the little great man." There is no record of the acceptance of this flattering invitation, but it must have pleased the General for the Ballston Journal says that he appeared at the Sans Souci August 23 and 24, in his programme of songs, dances, Grecian statues, and his representations of Napoleon, Frederick the Great, etc.

In January, 1848, permission was given to the Schenectady and Saratoga Plank Road

Company to construct a plank road in Ballston Spa, through Ballston street to High street; to Court, to Front street, to Milton avenue, and through Milton avenue to north line of the village. April 17, 1848, a tax of $80 was voted to purchase a new village hearse.

The minutes of the trustees of July 14, 1849 read: "Dan Rice is given leave to exhibit August, 1849." This early showman, and the prince among clowns of all time, seems to have brought the first circus to Ballston.

In 1853 an effort was made to bring Bloodville within the corporate limits, but it was not successful.

At a public meeting in September of this year a resolution to levy a tax of $1,000 for building a Surrogate's office was laid on the table; a resolution to raise the money by subscription was ignored, and "the meeting broke up in a row," if the record can be relied on.

A new charter was adopted in 1855, and a committee appointed to present it to the Legislature for enactment.

The first Commissioners of Deeds for the village, six in number, were appointed in 1859.

August 15, 1860, a franchise was granted to the Providence, R. I., Steam and Gas Pipe Company, to lay pipes for furnishing gas in the streets of the village. Gas was furnished early in 1861.

In May, 1865, the trustees adopted a resolution to straighten Front street, at the west end. The McMaster property was acquired, and the street changed to its present location. Previous to this time the street turned northward at the brow of the hill, and intersected Charlton street just north of the present Iron Spring.

The village was first lighted by gas in 1873. Gas had so largely given place to the electric light, that the gas works were closed in January of the present year. The electric light was first introduced in 1890.

In June, 1876, the name of Ballston avenue was changed to Church avenue, to avoid confusion, as there is a Ballston street running south from High street, past the village cemetery.

A meeting of the electors was held March 19, 1877, to vote on the question of incorporating the village under the General Village Law of 1870. The vote stood 82 for; 150 against. At another meeting on February 23, 1879, the question was again defeated, 98 for; 152 against. The question remained quiet for six years, when, on March 16, 1885, the village voted for such incorporation, 318 for; 134 against. The trustees have since that time been acting under the general incorporation law for villages. In the year 1885, for the first time the office of Village President was made distinct from that of trustee, and the President was elected by the people. The term of office of the trustees was also increased to two years, three trustees to be elected in one year, and two on the alternate years.

In 1887 the village clock was purchased at a cost of $700. It was at first placed in the tower of Christ church. In 1891 the clock was removed to its present location in the tower of the Court House. The old "town clock" in the steeple of the Baptist church at the head of Front street, began to record the time when the church was completed in 1836, and did good service for fifty years.

In 1897 the number of trustees was increased to six; three trustees to be elected annually.

In 1901 the first brick pavement in the village was laid on Front street, from Bath street to Milton avenue. In 1902 a portion of Bath street and Milton avenue were paved with brick; and in 1906, Malta avenue, from Milton avenue to Pine street, was similarly paved.

In the year 1904, for the first time, the Village Clerk and the Street Commissioner were elected by the people. Prior to this these offices had been filled by appointment of the Trustees.

In 1906 a "curfew" ordinance was adopted. This ordinance makes it unlawful for any person under sixteen years of age to be or remain on the streets in the village after the hour of nine o'clock p. m., from March 1 to August 31; and from September 1 to the last day of February, after eight o'clock p. m., unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

In 1907, June 22 to 25, the centennial celebration of the incorporation of the village was held.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At a public meeting held January 27, 1815, the citizens decided to build an engine house

and purchase a fire engine, and directed the Trustees to organize a Fire Company immediately. It took nearly two years to decide as to the kind of engine to be purchased, and September 16, 1816, $300 were voted for this purpose.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Trustees in January, 1815, were required to organize a fire company immediately, the first company was not organized until August 15, 1818, three-and-a-half years later. It took the name of Fire Engine Company, No. 1. The following were its members: Wm. A. Langworthy, captain; Andrew Watrous, assistant captain; Simeon P. Allcott, Rowland A. Wright, Eli Barnum, John Merchant, Avery Swan, David Sprague, Anson Buel, Jabez Smith, Nehemiah Barber, William Ford, Cornelius Jones, George Lockwood, Stephen Lockwood, Isaac Seaman, Jacob Van Derheyden, James Jack, Lyman S. Ballard, Stephen Peckham, Henry H. Langworthy, Ulysses F. Doubleday, Lyman B. Langworthy, Erasmus D. Smith, James B. Grant.

Engine House No. 1, was first located on the southwest corner of Bath and Walnut streets, on a lot owned by John Wait. In 1845 it was moved across Bath street to the site of the present Engine House, No. 1. The old house was a small one-story frame building, with a cupola for the bell. The present engine house was built in 1867.

The first mention of Eagle Fire Company, No. 1, is on June 10, 1843. It had previously been called Fire Engine Company, No. 1.

The Ballston Spa Hook and Ladder Star Company was organized in August, 1843.

ENGINE HOUSE No. 1.
Matt Lee Hook and Ladder Company, which won the State Championship in the prize drill, under Edward J. Sweeney, drill master.

This company was merged with Eagle Fire Company a few years later.

The equipment of Eagle Fire Company was a first-class hand engine made by Button & Company, of Waterford; two hose carts, and ladders and pike poles.

Star Fire Company, No. 2, at the north-end, was organized September 28, 1855, with the following members: Adam Wilber, Charles E. Jones, Anthony Tarrant, David Sears, William F. Posson, George Foster, Marshall Vaughn, John Spicer, Hiram Hovey, N. Reed Vandenburgh, John B. Thomas, George Burnham, John Vandenburgh, Orville D. Vaughn, Gideon A. Tripp, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Ephraim Tripp, Smith Hovey, John Whitford, Michael H. Smith, Wm. W.

Arnold, David F. Barton, Nathan Fury, George Caneff, Wm. H. Hull, James V. Denton, Wallace McIntosh, Alexander Hays, William Webb, Abram Van Epps, John Calkins, Henry I. Davis, John Webb, James Irish, Reid, John M. Waterbury, Alfred J. Rowell, Loren Allen, Abram Coons, L. E. Miller, E. C. Hoyt, Jacob Allen, Wallace Young, Henry C. Dye, Warren Earl, Robert Morrison, J. S. Thomas, George M. Winne, Smith Hovey,

UNION HOSE COMPANY No. 2.
This Company also won the State Championship in the prize drill.

Egbert Davis, John F. Burtles, John Coon, David Sheffer, Thomas Spicer.

J. A. Hovey Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, was organized July 11, 1868. The charter members were Charles H. Wickham, Seth Whalen, Robert J. Allison, Henry Luther, John D. Wait, John H. Arnold, John N. Ramsdill, Samuel Massey, S. B. Lanehart, Swits Walls, George H. Parkinson, A. J. Bracey Shepherd, Gideon Anderson, William Massey. February 16, 1887, the name of the company was changed to Matt Lee Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1. The rooms of the company are in Engine House No. 1, on Bath street.

Union Fire Company, No. 2, was organized February 7, 1877, in place of Star Fire Company, which disbanded four days earlier.

The following were charter members of the new company: W. B. H. Outt, A. M. Shepherd, Smith Hovey, W. W. Brown, H. W. Haight, James Dunk, P. N. Viele, C. Fred Wheeler, John H. Arnold, Richard Barron, George Ayers, C. Rouse, N. M. Estabrook, George W. Oakley, Charles Parks, William Parks, Royal M. Parks, John H. Smith, Chris. Herzog, F. E. Stewart, C. Webster, James Wood, George Caneff, James W. Irish, Emmett Lee, G. B. Yott, James Clute, C. B. Irish, Orin Osgood, W. W. Garrett, John Parent, Paul Lauderville, A. J. Reid, John Howard, James Bourst, David Thompson.

This company was equipped with a Button hand engine of great power, a hose cart, and hooks and ladders. The handsome brick building which they now occupy, stands on the site of the earlier frame house, on the west side of Milton avenue, a little north of the Kayaderosseras bridge.

Until 1870, when hydrants were established, the village depended on the two hand engines for protection from fires, and they were kept for use on the higher grounds until the erection of the stand-pipe in 1900. Since that time they have been abandoned, the large number of hydrants, a good supply of hose, and the high gravity pressure affording ample fire protection.

WATER WORKS.

The first franchise for village water works was granted to Isaac Rice, May 10, 1826, and thirteen years later, in 1839, the privileges granted to Rice were transferred to Dr. Samuel Freeman, and in July, 1840, Amaziah Ford and Joseph Kelso were granted the same privileges. Nothing seems to have been done under these franchises.

THE RESERVOIR—BALLSTON SPA WATER WORKS.

The inhabitants of the village were supplied with drinking water until 1869 by wells; and by the private springs of Richard Chase, James M. Cook, George Thompson and Edwin H. Chapman, the water being conducted through wooden logs, with a boring two inches in diameter.

For fire purposes there were a number of small reservoirs or cisterns, to which the surface water was conducted. There were three such reservoirs on High street, and three on Front street. The streams were used in other parts of the village.

July 23, 1868, a public meeting was held

in Waverly Hall, and it was voted to bond the village for $20,000 to construct water works. Water mains were laid through the streets, fire hydrants established, and the reservoir known as the Palmerton reservoir, just beyond the northern limits of the village, was constructed. A larger supply of water being required to meet the needs of the village, the large reservoir near Cady Hill was built some years later. To secure greater elevation for fire purposes, and a better supply for residents on the high grounds, the stand-pipe on Low's hill was erected in 1900, and two streams of pure spring water added to the supply. To day Ballston Spa has a first-class system of water works, and a potable water which ranks among the best in the State. The cost to the corporation has been, in round numbers $200,000.

With the opening of the sewage disposal plant the past summer, the village now has a perfect system of sewers. An appropriation of $100,000 was required to construct and equip the plant.

THE POST-OFFICE.

The first record of a post-office in the village is in the possession of Mr. Herbert C. Westcot, whose ancestors were among the earliest inhabitants. The document is a certificate of appointment of Joshua B. Aldridge as "Deputy Postmaster at Ballstown Springs, N. Y." It is dated November 30, 1797. April 1, 1798, Mr. Aldridge was appointed postmaster at Ballston Springs, the Post-Office Department having dropped the "w."

Joel Lee was appointed postmaster March 25, 1805, and held the office continuously for thirty-six years. July 28, 1825, the name was changed to Ballston Spa, and June 18, 1829, the "Spa" was dropped, the post-office being simply "Ballston." Efforts were made at different times to have the "Spa" restored, so that the names of village and postoffice should correspond, but without effect, until in 1890 Mr. C. H. Grose, publisher of the Ballston Journal, took up the matter with the Department at Washington. His efforts were successful, and May 16, 1890, the postoffice name was made identical with that of the village—Ballston Spa.

James W. Horton succeeded Joel Lee June 4, 1841. The postmasters since this time have been: George Thompson, appointed December 28, 1844; James Comstock, June 23, 1849; James H. Speir, December 6, 1851; Moses Williams, May 24, 1853; M. Lemet Williams, March 22, 1861; James O. Leach, May 13, 1869; Mrs. Aurelia C. Leach, March 23, 1881; Merritt J. Esmond, February 13, 1882; Edward F. Grose, February 5, 1883; Charles O. McCreedy, June 16, 1885; Frank Jones, September 6, 1889; Henry C. Dater, March 20, 1894; Frank Jones, March 22, 1898; Hiro J. Settle, February 13, 1905.

The postoffice is in the Sans Souci block on Front street, and is admirably planned for the convenience of the public. The city free delivery was instituted November 1, 1905, and has given general satisfaction. This office also has charge of five Rural Free Delivery routes, which include the town of Milton; the northwestern part of the town of Malta; the northern half of the town of Ballston to a short distance south of Ballston Centre; on the west the route extends for about one mile into the town of Galway; on the north into the town of Greenfield as far as South Greenfield and Page's Corners; and into the southwestern part of the town of Saratoga Springs as far as Cady Hill.

Hiro J. Settle is the present postmaster, and Charles A. Marvin, assistant postmaster. Clerks, Warren C. McCreedy, William V. Fagan, Miss Olga Reid; City Carriers, James D. Reid, Charles G. Crippen, James L. Northrup; Rural Carriers, John H. Potter, Lyman Damon, Arthur D. Coon, Eugene H. Broughton, Leonard J. Weed.

The Ballston Journal of June 5, 1849, gave notice to the electors who voted for General Taylor for President, that a meeting would be held at the hotel of R. Chase on June 9, to select a candidate for Postmaster. The notice was signed by James Comstock, Reuben Westcot, James M. Allcott and Nathaniel J. Seely, candidates. The vote resulted in the choice of James Comstock, and he received the appointment. This is the only instance in the history of the village of the postmaster being chosen by ballot.

RAILROADS.

The event of greatest importance in the development and growth of the village was the building of the Saratoga and Schenectady

Railroad from Saratoga to Schenectady, which was begun in 1831 and completed in 1832, and the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad, built in 1833, from Troy to Ballston Spa. These were respectively the second and third steam railroads in the State, the first road being from Albany to Schenectady.

The first train was run over the road from Schenectady to Ballston on July 7th, 1832. The train of three "carriages," as they were then called, was drawn by the locomotive "Fire-Fly," brought from England. The time occupied in the run was one hour and twenty-eight minutes. The "Fire-Fly" for many years stood in the railroad shops at Green Island, and is now preserved in the Smithsonian Institute at Washington.

The rails used were long strips of iron, three inches wide and half an inch thick, nailed to one edge of a horizontal timber about eight inches square. A piece of one of these primitive rails is in the High School museum in this village. Both locomotives and horses were used to draw the trains during the first year.

The first railroad station was on Bath street, south of the tracks, where the flagman's house now stands, and was built in 1832. In 1849 a new station was built on the site of the present station, which was erected in 1900.

Harvey Loomis, the proprietor of the Sans Souci, built "The Arcade" over the railroad tracks at Low street in 1823. The passenger trains stopped under The Arcade to accommodate the guests of the Sans Souci.

The first franchise for an Electric Railroad was granted in 1890, the road to run from Ballston Spa to Saratoga Springs. A number of franchises were granted at later dates, all of which were forfeited. The Saratoga Traction Company secured a franchise in 1899, and built the road from this village to Saratoga Springs, which is now a part of the system of The Hudson Valley Railway Company.

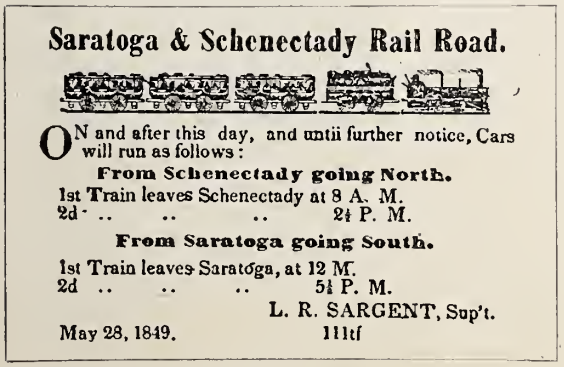
"D. & H." R. R. STATION, BALLSTON SPA.

In 1896 a franchise was granted to Arthur B. Paine and associates, and the Ballston Terminal Railroad was constructed. This road runs through the beautiful Kayaderosseras valley from Ballston Spa to Middle Grove, a distance of twelve miles. The company is now known as the Eastern New York Railroad Company. Their business consists largely in carrying freight for the large num-

ber of mills on the Kayaderosseras. The extension of the road through Galway to Amsterdam and Johnstown is contemplated at an early day.

The Schenectady and Saratoga electric road was opened in 1905. It is a double track road, and is one of the finest in the State.

William Porter, now one of our oldest residents, has a record of long and faithful service as a railroad employee almost, if not quite, without a parallel. He began work at



Saratoga & Schenectady Rail Road.

ON and after this day, and until further notice, Cars will run as follows:

From Schenectady going North.

1st Train leaves Schenectady at 8 A. M.
2d .. .. .. 2½ P. M.

From Saratoga going South.

1st Train leaves Saratoga, at 12 M.
2d .. .. .. 5½ P. M.

L. R. SARGENT, Sup't.

May 28, 1849. 111tf

Old Advertisement.

the railroad station in this village in 1844, at the age of fifteen, when the late George Babcock was station agent, and continued in service, in different positions, until about two years ago, when he retired from active work, after a service of sixty-one years in the same place.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

The first telegraph office was opened in the Railroad Station in 1853, nine years after Samuel F. B. Morse transmitted the first telegraphic message from Washington to Baltimore. The office was in charge of George Babcock. The Ballston Journal of February 8, 1853, says: "With proper encouragement and patronage on the part of our citizens the office will be sustained, and may even be made profitable."

The Western Union office still remains in the station. The Postal Telegraph has an office on Bath street, between Front and Walnut streets.

The first system of telephones was established in the village in 1882. This system is now operated by the Hudson River Telephone Company.

The Commercial Union Telephone Company was granted a franchise in 1901, and began business the following year.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

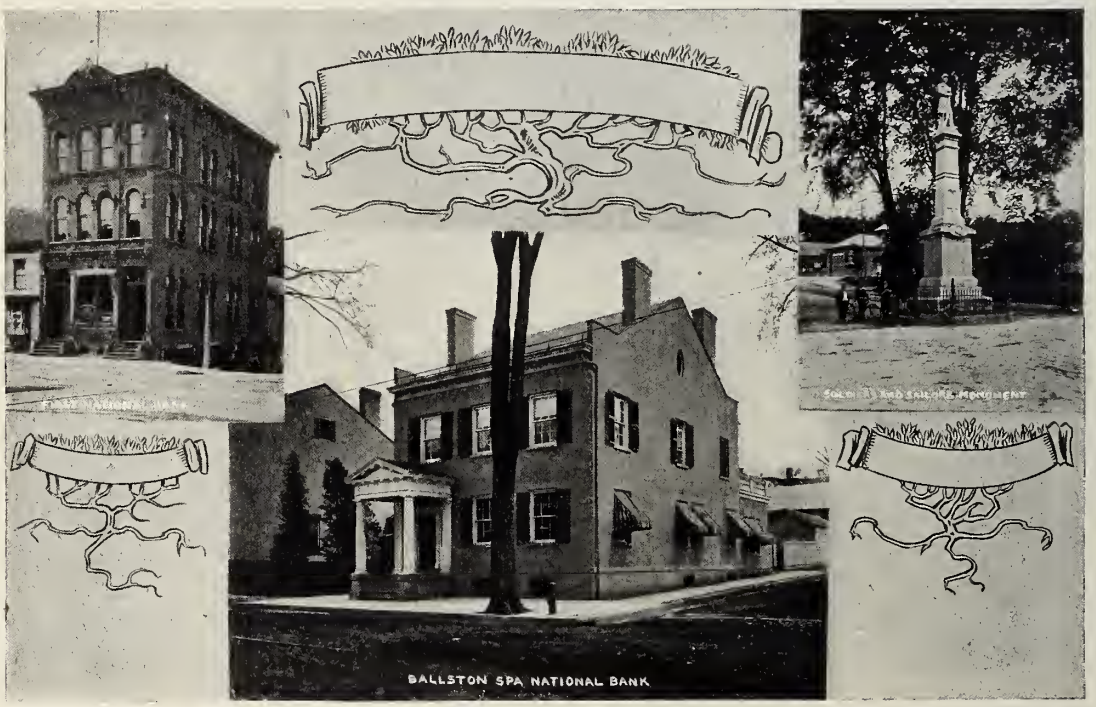
The mineral springs of Ballston Spa were the first source of the prosperity and growth of the village. As the springs gradually failed, from unknown causes, still greater prosperity was assured to the village through its manufacturing industries. Indeed, the building of dams on Gordon creek and the Kayaderosseras was given as one of the causes of the decadence of the springs, no less an authority than Benjamin Silliman, the distinguished professor of chemistry at Yale College, saying that the holding back of these streams by the power dams erected, had doubtless caused the fresh water to find its way in large quantities through seams in the shale rocks, and to mingle with the sources of the mineral water, thus destroying their medicinal value. Others attributed the loss of the springs to repeated attempts to improve the water and increase the supply by retubing.

When an attempt was made to retube the Public Well (the original spring), Joshua B. Aldridge predicted the ruin of the spring. Protesting very earnestly, he said: "My house is full of boarders; you might as well burn it down and destroy my business that way as to tamper with that spring." Had the present method of tubing deep wells, and the use of the seed-bag been known in those days, the history of this locality would doubtless have been very materially changed. Whatever the cause, the springs failed, one by one, and Ballston Spa, which for half a century had maintained its supremacy as the first watering place and most renowned summer resort in America, was soon far outstripped by the sister village of Saratoga Springs, which has since become the world's most famous watering place.

The excellent water power furnished by the Kayaderosseras now commanded attention, and manufactories sprang up along the stream, not only in the village, but also up the stream as far north as Rock City Falls, all being tributary to the business growth and permanent prosperity of Ballston Spa.

BANKS.

The first Bank in Saratoga County was the Saratoga County Bank, at Waterford, established in 1830. Among the members of the first board of directors were Samuel Cook, of Ballston Spa, and Miles Beach, of Saratoga Springs. In the year 1878, nearly half a century later, we find that Ballston Spa was still represented in the board, by John W. Thompson.



BALLSTON SPA BANKS AND SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The second Bank was the Ballston Spa Bank, organized in 1838. Prior to this time the banking business of the village was done at Schenectady, Waterford and Troy. Upon the passage of the general banking law of the State in 1838, James M. Cook at once took steps toward instituting a Bank in Ballston Spa, and late that year the organization was completed, and the Bank commenced business May 15, 1839. The first board of directors were James M. Cook, John W. Thompson, Lebbeus Booth, Jonathan S. Beach, Isaac Frink, Anson Brown, Samuel Freeman, Eli Barnum, Stephen Smith, John Kelley, Harvey Chapman, Philip H. McOmber, Samuel Hides. James M. Cook was chosen president; Lebbeus Booth, vice-president; Isaac Fowler, cashier; John J. Lee, teller. Mr. Cook continued as president until January, 1856, when he resigned to accept the appointment of Superintendent of the State Banking Department. John W. Thompson was elected president February 26, 1856. Isaac Fowler on April 1st accepted the cashiership of a bank at Saratoga Springs, and John J. Lee was then promoted to cashier, and Robert Bennett was chosen teller. Mr. Bennett died in 1872. George L. Thompson succeeded him as teller. On the death of John J. Lee in 1887, Mr. Thompson became cashier, and was elected president after the decease of his father, John W. Thompson, in 1892. He was president until his death, December 29, 1895. Andrew S. Booth became president in January, 1896. Thomas Kerley was chosen teller in 1887, and cashier in 1892, succeeding George L. Thompson in both positions. Egbert Clute was the successor of Thomas Kerley as teller in 1892.

In 1865 the Bank was reorganized under the national banking law as the Ballston Spa National Bank. The present officers are Andrew S. Booth, president; William G. Ball, vice-president; Thomas Kerley, cashier; Egbert Clute and Charles O. McCreedy, Jr., tell-

ers. The Directors for 1907 are William G. Ball, Andrew S. Booth, John H. Burke, Theodore S. Haight, Thomas Kerley, William H. Knickerbacker, James T. Sweetman.

The First National Bank of Ballston Spa was organized April 1, 1865. The first directors were Hiro Jones, James W. Horton, Henry A. Mann, James O. Leach, William Warner, Elisha Comstock, A. S. Whitlock, L. W. Bristol, John McLean, John D. Bancroft, Rensselaer Ketchum, John H. Westcot, C. M. Noxon. At the first meeting of the directors Hiro Jones was elected president; Henry A. Mann, vice-president; J. D. Bancroft, cashier; George C. Beecher, teller. Stephen C. Medbery succeeded Mr. Beecher as teller, September 3, 1866. On the resignation, on account of ill health, of Hiro Jones, March 5, 1879, Hon. George West was chosen president, and on the decease of Mr. West in 1901, Hon. J. S. L'Amoreaux was elected his successor. Mr. Bancroft removed to Kansas City, Mo., in December, 1881, and Mr. Medbery succeeded him as cashier.

The present officers of the Bank are J. S. L'Amoreaux, president; H. J. Donaldson, vice-president; S. C. Medbery, cashier; R. M. Medbery, teller. The board of directors are J. S. L'Amoreaux, H. J. Donaldson, S. C. Medbery, D. W. Mabee, M. J. Esmond, W. A. Mehan, H. C. Westcot, Gilbert T. Seelye, F. H. Beach.

MANUFACTURES.

Before the year 1800 Daniel Thomas and Hezekiah Middlebrook erected dams and established grist-mills on the Kayaderosseras. The Middlebrook mill stood a short distance west of the site in later years occupied by the "Blue Mill." The Thomas mill was some distance further up the stream, about where the pulp mill is situated. About 1825 Epenetus White, Jr., erected the mill so long known as the Red Mill, in the west end of the village, on Gordon creek. In 1830 Hezekiah Middlebrook built the high dam and the large grist-mill known as the Blue Mill, this building, with the large additions being now owned and occupied by the Union Bag and Paper Company. The grist-mills of the present day are those of Wm. S. Wheeler's Son, on High street, and of David Lewis, on Malta avenue.

The large brick factory on Gordon creek, west of Bath street, now one of the tannery buildings, was erected in 1813 by Nicholas Low and Benjamin Peck, for the manufacture of woolen, cotton and linen goods, the business name being "The Ballston Spa Company." The large steam engine to operate the mill was imported from England. When the factory had been in operation for three or four weeks, the great "walking-beam" broke, and so much damage was done that the enterprise was abandoned. The building remained unoccupied, except for a short time as a cider refinery, for nearly forty years. About 1850 Messrs. Booth, Wait, Moore, Wakeman and Thomas, under the name of Wakeman & Company, purchased the property and began the manufacture of oil cloth. A few years later John Wait became sole owner, and continued the business until his death in 1875. The building was afterward occupied by Blittersdorff & Company as a paper box factory; by Allen & Heaton, manufacturers of emery wheels, and is now one of the principal buildings of the American Hide and Leather Company.

As early as 1810 John Carter had a tannery on the small creek which flows across West High street into Gordon creek. About the same time Moses Williams had a tannery on the Kayaderosseras a short distance east of the Blue Mill. He also carried on a boot and shoe factory.

Stephen H. White in 1806 was engaged in the business of fulling, dyeing and dressing of the home-made cloths of those early days.

The Milton Factory for the carding of wool was in operation at Factory Village in 1813, and was still doing business in 1830.

In 1810 Benjamin Hall established an iron-forge on the small island which for many years has been known as "Goose island," near the bridge over the Kayaderosseras. This island was once a favorite camping ground of the Mohawks.

In 1836 Jonathan S. Beach and Harvey Chapman bought seventy-two acres of land on the east side of Milton street between North High street and Malta avenue. Soon after they built the lower dam, and erected a woolen mill. In 1840 they built a cotton factory farther east, and in 1844 Beach & Chapman erected the third mill, also a cotton mill, which is now the Island paper mill. A few

years later these three mills were purchased by Samuel H. Cook and James M. Cook. They were operated by the Cooks until 1864, in manufacturing cotton cloth and patent seamless cotton bags. Jonas A. Hovey then bought all this Island property, and the two larger factories were used for manufacturing cotton for calicoes.

In 1844 the Ballston Mill Company was organized by Harvey Chapman, Jonathan S. Beach, James Thompson, John W. Thompson, George Thompson, Lebbeus Booth and others. They purchased the land and water-power west of Milton street, north of Gordon creek, and south of the property of Blood & Thomas. The first owners of this land were Hezekiah Middlebrook and Daniel Thomas. The Ballston Mill Company erected the Union Cotton mill on the site of the present Union Paper mill. Ziba Cook operated this factory, manufacturing print cloths until 1855, when the property passed into the hands of Jonas A. Hovey. The same company built the brick knitting mill on the hill west of the Union mill. Chapman & Morris, also Jones & Bassett, and finally Hiro Jones occupied this building as a knitting mill. This building, enlarged by George West, is now the paper bag mill. In 1865 Mr. Hovey also purchased this mill, thus becoming the owner of all the factories in the village with the single exception of the oil-cloth factory. He continued to operate all the mills until his death in 1875.

In 1850 Beach & Chapman built the mill known as the Glen Woolen Mill. This mill was operated as a blanket and cloth mill by different parties for more than thirty years.

RED MILL POND, BALLSTON SPA.

The mill site is now occupied by the Glen Pulp Mill, erected by George West in 1882.

J. S. Jones & Company manufactured hoes in 1853, and for some years did quite an extensive business.

B. J. Barber had a large planing mill and foundry on the top of the hill above the Glen Woolen Mill. He was also the inventor and manufacturer of a fine water-wheel.

Seth Whalen and Samuel F. Day were also the inventors of superior water wheels, which were manufactured in the foundries of Arnold Harris.

J. B. Cheydleur had an extensive carriage factory on Milton avenue, on the south bank of the Kayaderosseras.

The large tannery of Chauncey and Arthur Parent was on Saratoga avenue, at the turn

of the street to the north. It was afterward operated by M. Schwarz & Company for twenty years. The tannery was destroyed by fire in 1886.

E. H. Chapman began the manufacture of brick in 1867, on the level ground along the eastern shore of the Kayaderosseras just north of the red bridge. He continued the business for some years, until the clay bank was exhausted.

company made 21,000,000 paper collars, and about 5,000,000 paper cuffs.

A short distance north of the corporation limits, were the axe and scythe works established in 1824 by Isaiah Blood. He continued the business until his death in 1870; it then passed into the hands of his son-in-law, Henry Knickerbacker, of New York, who, some years later sold the works to the American Axe and Edge Tool Company. The

SCYTHE SHOP OF ISAIAH BLOOD ON THE KAYADEROSSERAS.

King & Kosengarten, and Charles Blittersdorff were large manufacturers of paper boxes. J. L. Hempstead & Company manufactured soap. George E. Knox hoop skirts and corsets. Farlin Brothers, shirts, collars and cuffs.

S. F. Day & Company for a few years manufactured telegraph instruments, of which Mr. Day was the inventor.

The Glen Paper Collar Company organized in 1868, by Horace J. Medbery and Henry A. Mann, Jr., for a number of years had one of the largest establishments of the kind in the United States. It was located in an extensive addition to the Blue Mill. The company used the entire output of the large paper mill of Mann & Laflin, about two miles up the Kayaderosseras. In the year 1875 this

scythe shop was destroyed by fire March 13, 1900, and the axe shop was burned a few years earlier. The shops were not rebuilt, and the business was transferred to the works of the company at Glassport, Pa. From two hundred to three hundred men were employed in these shops, and the quantity of goods sold yearly was very large—12,000 dozen of scythes, 8,000 dozen of axes, and 10,000 dozen of other tools.

All of the foregoing industries in their day contributed in a greater or less degree to the making of the Ballston Spa of the present. The changes which the hand of Time writes on the historic page of every community are strikingly apparent in the record of our village, none of these industries surviving in Ballston Spa.

Notwithstanding this fact, Ballston Spa today is one of the busiest and most thriving manufacturing villages in Saratoga county, and a larger number find employment in its mills and shops than ever before.

Along the Kayaderosseras from Ballston Spa to Middle Grove, a distance of twelve miles, were located in 1861, and for many years afterward, a number of paper mills, and a large tannery at Milton Centre. The paper mills were those of John McLean, Chauncey H. Cook, afterward Mann & Laflin, L. M. Crane, the Pioneer Mill, at West Milton, Kilmer's Mill, the Excelsior and Empire Mills of George West, at Rock City Falls, and the two mills of Mr. West at Middle Grove. The shipping station for all these mills was Ballston Spa, and the enormous yearly business contributed to swell the volume of trade credited to the village. All but three of these paper mills are still in existence.

INDUSTRIES OF TO-DAY.

George West, a native of England, and an expert paper maker, came to Ballston Spa in 1861, just at the opening of the civil war. When cotton reached so high a value and was so scarce, that the manufacture of cotton bags was well nigh impossible, Mr. West began the manufacture of bags from manilla paper, and before he retired from business about thirty-five years later, was the largest manufacturer of manilla paper and paper bags in the world. He started in business by leasing the Empire Mill at Rock City Falls, with a capital of about $4,000. Within a year he purchased the mill, and in later years built and bought other mills along the Kayaderosseras. In 1875 he purchased all the Hovey mills in Ballston Spa, and was running night and day ten large mills and was the largest employer of labor the village has ever had. His employees numbered more than five hundred, and the business grew to enormous proportions. This business is now in the control of the Union Bag and Paper Company.

In 1882 Messrs. Haight & Company purchased the oil-cloth factory and removed their large tannery business from Milton Centre to Ballston Spa, the buildings at the former place having been destroyed by fire. Building after building was added to meet the increasing business, until the plant assumed its present mammoth dimensions. After the death of Mr. Haight the business was conducted by his two sons, H. Vassar Haight and Theodore S. Haight, and his partner, Matthew Vassar, until the property was sold to the American Hide and Leather Company. It is one of the largest manufactories of fine upper leather in the United States. About five hundred people are employed.

Two years ago Davison & Namack purchased the foundry of the Messrs. Uline on Bath street. Their business increased so rapidly that about a year since they erected a large foundry in the southeastern part of the village, near the tracks of the Delaware & Hudson railroad. Their work is largely for the General Electric Company at Schenectady, and the business is constantly growing. They now employ more than one hundred men.

These three leading industries of the village give employment to more than one thousand people.

The Eagle Wood Working Company, manufacturers of souvenirs and rustic wood novelties, are located on Milton avenue, northside.

C. H. Streever & Sons, contractors and builders, have large planing mills and extensive lumber yards.

D. Manogue, contractor and builder, has a large planing mill and lumber yard on Bath street.

C. B. Lord is proprietor of the old Arnold Harris iron foundry on Ford street.

The Sanitation and Supply Company manufacture insect powder, sanitary powder, stable powder, Zoo cage powder and fumigating powder, under the trade mark of "Nosmelle." The manufactory is on Middlebrook street, the business offices being at No. 320 Fifth avenue, New York City.

C. N. Mead has a large bottling business on Malta avenue, where he manufactures a superior line of soft drinks of about a dozen varieties.

M. T. Reynolds is proprietor of the large planing mill on South street formerly known as the Eagle Wood and Iron Works of B. J. Barker and R. C. Vandenburgh.

The Ballston Refrigerating Storage Company was incorporated in October, 1898. The

UNION BAG AND PAPER COMPANY PLANT.

SOME OF BALLSTON SPA'S INDUSTRIES.

brick building opposite the railroad station, for many years known as Waverly Hall, and later as Gould Hall, contained the first cold storage plant of the Company. A very large addition was erected in 1901, which nearly quadrupled the storage capacity. It is the largest cold storage plant in Northern New York. Louis Schwarz is the manager.

The latest addition to the industrial pursuits of the village is the Automobile Garage of George West, at the corner of Front street and Milton avenue. It is one of the largest and most completely equipped establishments in the State. The machine shop is supplied with machinery and tools of the finest description.

MERCANTILE INTERESTS.

It is impossible to mention in detail the mercantile establishments. To speak of the stores and shops, and of the men and women who have been devoted to "trade," for a period of more than one hundred years would of itself fill a large volume.

The "general store," the forerunner of the "department store" of to-day, was the great institution of the hamlets and villages of earliest times. Here was to be found the "post-office;" and here during the long winter evenings, gathered around the roaring old box stove, the village solons discussed the affairs of the town, state and nation. Even the tap-room of the village tavern possessed no superior attractions, nor did the villagers congregate there in greater numbers than at the "general store."

The first store of this character in Ballston Spa was that of Epenetus White, Jr., who erected a store and dwelling house combined, opposite the spring, about the year 1792. For more than fifty years Mr. White continued his business in this store, and it was continuously occupied as a store for almost a century, and until the building was burned in March, 1887.

In 1807, the year of the organization of the village, the Saratoga Advertiser published at Court House Hill, contained the following Ballston Spa advertisements:

Epenetus White, Jun., & Co., dry goods and groceries, hardware and crockery.

Archy Kasson and Amos Allcott, under the firm name of Kasson & Alcott, successors to D. & A. Alcott, "inform the public that they will continue the business of nail and tin makers; also dry goods, groceries, hardware and crockery."

Barnum & Loomis were saddlers and harness makers; Nathan Lewis, merchant tailor; and William E. Slocum, of Milton advertises his carding machine.

Elias P. Langworthy, who was a skilled mechanic as well as an able preacher of the gospel, tenders his services to the public as a watch and clock maker, jeweler and gunsmith; also hardware for sale.

Danforth Charles manufactured boots and shoes; Grant Powell was a druggist; John Warren dealt in dry goods and groceries, and Samis Blakely was a "white and black smith."

"Shepherd's Grist Mill," was advertised by the proprietor, William Shepherd.

William Anthony divided the watch-making business with Elder Langworthy; and Stephen H. White conducted the business of "fulling, dyeing and dressing of cloths."

Joel Lee conducted a "general store," in which the post-office was located.

From the fact that even in those early years every man engaged in business made it known through the local papers, one may be quite confident that the foregoing fully represents the business of the little village at that time.

We have no copy of a village paper from 1807 until the year 1813. The Independent American, meantime had been purchased by James Comstock, and removed to Ballston Spa, and we learn from a reading of the advertisements that during this period Moses Williams has established himself in business as a shoemaker, and is about to start a tannery; Samuel Smith has engaged in merchant tailoring, and Mrs. Flint is a milliner and mantua maker.

A bookstore, with a reading-room attachment, is kept by Mr. Comstock, of the "American," and Reuben Sears also has a bookstore. In 1815 R. Westcot & Co. advertise a "New Store" for the sale of dry goods, groceries, and crockery. In 1818 the "Co." disappeared from the advertisement, and Reuben Westcot announced the addition of a complete stock of drugs and medicines. In later years the firm became R. Westcot & Son, the dry goods and grocery department was

given up, and the firm continued as Druggists. On the death of Reuben Westcot, he was succeeded by his son, John H. Westcot, who carried on the business until his death in 1895. The business has since been conducted by Herbert C. Westcot, son of John H. Westcot. Established by Reuben Westcot nearly one hundred years ago, it is the only instance, in the history of the village, of a business continuously maintained in the same family from earliest times to the present.

In 1815, Allcott & Langworthy were associated in the hardware business; and Joel Lee and Eli Barnum, as "Lee & Barnum" were running a general store. The second drug store in town was opened during this year by John Bennett.

In 1820 Joel Marble, stone cutter, removed from Court House Hill to the village, and very appropriately advertises white *marble* headstones.

In 1821 Allcott & Langworthy added a foundry to their hardware business, and manufactured plows and harrows.

In 1822 Miss Katie Bradley, milliner and mantua maker, makes her bow to the public in the columns of the village papers. Hezekiah Cutler advertises a chair factory; Edward A. Watrous has removed his general store from Court House Hill to Ballston Spa.

In 1823 Lyman B. Langworthy, son of "Elder" Langworthy, advertises as a dealer in hardware and stoves. This was the first store to deal exclusively in hardware.

In 1825 Robert Bennett advertises hats, caps and gentlemen's goods; and the announcement of saddle and harness making by Czar H. Benedict appears. Mrs. Peckham also advertises her millinery store.

In 1831 Samuel Hides, " black and white smith," announces that he has just opened a shop for general "Smithy" business, fully equipped for doing the best work.

In 1834 Joel Lee took his son Edward W. into partnership, with the firm name of Joel Lee & Son.

In 1837 Parent & Ashley established a hat factory.

In 1836 John McKown announces that he has just opened a cabinet ware factory, east of the Sans Souci, and says, "most kinds of country produce received in payment for cabinet work." His "factory" stood where the Tracy block is now located. Mr. McKown was also an undertaker, and continued in business for half a century.

In this year James W. Horton began business as a druggist, from which he retired when elected county clerk in 1845. In this year, also, Arnold Harris and James H. Speir engaged in the hardware business, the firm being Speir & Harris.

In 1837 Harvey N. Hill opened a "new grocery and provision store"; after a lapse of seventy years we find his son-in-law, George M. Cook, of the Cook-Phillips Company, engaged in the same business.

In this year Bernard McKittrick, father of Capt. Wm. H. McKittrick, of Mexican and civil war fame, advertised a hat factory. Sylvester Blood, successor of Blood & Davis, was a hardware merchant; and Harvey Chapman and John D. Hale, as Chapman & Hale, dealt in dry goods, groceries, etc. This store was in the brick building known as the Clapp building, on Milton avenue. In later years Russell P. Clapp succeeded to the business. On his appointment as Secretary of the Troy Steamboat company the store was closed.

In 1845 Edward W. Lee succeeded to the general store business of Joel Lee & Son. The store of Joel Lee for forty years was on the corner now occupied by the First National Bank.

George R. Thomas opened a hardware store in this year, at the corner of Milton avenue and Ford street. The firm was afterward Jones & Thomas. They were succeeded by J. S. & J. B. Thomas; Joesph S. Thomas and C. E. Tallmadge. The store is now occupied by F. W. Watts, plumber.

John Barrett also opened a boot and shoe store on Front street the same year.

In 1847 O. D. Vaughn's marble works are advertised; Wm. W. Arnold has opened a large furniture store on South street, and John J. Luther is a maker of saddles and harness.

In 1848 George W. Lee and Henry A. Mann, as Lee & Mann, are conducting a general store at the south east corner of Front and Bath streets, and Anthony Hicks is selling boots and shoes in his store on Front street, nearly opposite.

In 1846 James F. Peckham, a native of Ballston Spa, learned the trade of harness maker, and opened a shop in 1852, which he

conducted successfully for fifty-three years, retiring from business two years ago.

About the same time, his cousin, George W. Peckham opened a blacksmith shop and continued the business until his death about five years ago. For forty years he occupied the well-known shop, built by him, on Hamilton street.

Abram Cary was at this time engaged in the boot and shoe business on Milton avenue. He was a shoemaker by trade, and also kept a good stock of ready-made boots and shoes.

In 1848 William Harris announced that he had "purchased the hardware business of Arnold Harris, and would continue the same." Arnold Harris was at this time county treasurer, and a year later repurchased the business.

In this year L. W. Bristol began business in Ballston Spa, as a dealer in dry goods, groceries, crockery, etc., first door north of the Baptist church on Milton avenue. Two years later he purchased the store of Arthur Parent, hatter, on Bath street, and retired from the general store business, to establish a large business as hatter, furrier, and dealer in gents' furnishing goods.

In 1852 Magnus Schwarz and Louis Muhlfelder, under the firm name of M. Schwarz & Company, opened a general store at the corner of Milton avenue and Ford street where they continued in business for about twenty years. Mr. Schwarz then purchased the Parent tannery, which he carried on until it was burned in 1886.

In 1854 George B. Lawrence opened a harness shop, and for nearly forty years conducted the business at the corner of Bath and Washington streets.

From this time until the close of the first half century of village life, a number of stores were opened which had an existence of only a few years. Among the most important were the stores of A. & D. W. Garrett, general store; the Union store; Francis Bassett, dry goods; A. P. Hemphill, books; C. E. Jones, hardware; Wheeler K. Booth, dry goods and groceries. During this period R. T. Wade, who had carried on a large book store for many years, sold to H. Crapo.

In concluding this sketch of the mercantile life of our village, we can only mention the names of those, prominent in business circles, who have either passed away or have retired from business. Let it be the pleasant duty of some future historian to write of the business life and business men of the present day. The names follow:

E. W. Lee, Henry A. Mann, M. Schwarz & Co., (Louis Muhlfelder), William Brown, Charles M. Brown, S. B. Jackson, C. F. Wheeler, general stores; L. P. Seelye, C. M. Noxon, Albert P. Blood, C. F. Wiley, J. D. Muhlfelder, T. C. Kelley, dry goods; L. W. Bristol, hatter and furrier; Samuel Gould, Samuel Gould, Jr., E. C. Parkinson, William H. Phillips, George Phillips, grocers; Thomas Padgham, William Devlin, John Byrnes, butchers; M. L. Williams, John H. Westcot, Henry Hunt, George M. Winne, Wm. J. Redmond, Frank E. Mitchell, druggists; John Barrett, William H. Dodge, E. D. Babcock, Wm. H. Stewart, boots and shoes; Arnold Harris, A. J. Holdridge, George R. Thomas, John B. Thomas, Joseph S. Thomas, Charles E. Jones, Sanford Smith, Wells A. Laflin, hardware; Eli Settle, Elisha Wickham, Alonzo M. Shepherd, Wm. S. Wheeler, millers; David Maxwell, George C. Beecher, John D. Bancroft, Henry C. Dater, M. J. Esmond, insurance; John D. Osborn, S. H. Van Steenburgh, bakers; Samuel F. Day, Henry L. West, Robert A. Merchant, watchmakers and jewelers; Isaiah Massey, Charles Massey, Charles N. McClew, Charles Carpenter, John Larchar, Benjamin Henry, Morris King, tailors and clothiers; Mrs. A. P. Blood, Misses Margaret and Anna Van Ness, Mrs. E. C. Hoyt, Mrs. T. C. Kelley, milliners; John J., Samuel H., and Henry Luther, liquor dealers; Abner S. Irish, James D. Leroy, James L Boocock, George Ayers, blacksmiths; Benjamin J. Barber, Smith Hovey, David Thompson, Abijah Comstock, Joseph Cole, lumber, and sash and blind shops; Joseph Horr, N. Reed Vandenburgh, Foster Connery, George Dunn, Anthony M. Smith, James P. Locklin, William Locklin, carpenters and builders; S. L. Smith, S. D. Arnold, George E. Knox, dentists; L. R. Bronk, J. N. Ramsdill, T. J. Arnold, photographers; Edward Gilborne, John McKown, Philip N. Viele, Rush H. Young, Jesse Young, Peter A. Finley, A. J. Fenton, undertakers.

Among the proprietors of our hotels during this period, have been: D. B. Bartlett, Nathaniel M. Clark, George W. Hall, George Smith, of the Sans Souci; S. B. Medbery, Frank Cunningham, Medbery's hotel; Wm. W. Day, Oliver Shepherd, Martin Lee, Eagle hotel; Lewis Sickler, Railroad House and Ballston Spa House; Simeon B. Lanehart, Ballston Spa House and Union hotel; C. W. Smith, S. M. Arnold, George D. Story, Ballston Spa House; H. C. Holmes, Gleason's hotel; Henry Harrison, C. T. Peek, James E. Marsden, Harrison House; Sherman Hayner, Hayner House.

THE PROFESSIONS.

Among those who have attained eminence in the legal profession, from earliest times to the present, have been Judge James Thompson, James Emott, son-in-law of Beriah Palmer, later of Poughkeepsie, and known as Judge Emott of the Supreme Court throughout the State, Samuel Cook, John W. Taylor, Samuel Young, Levi H. Palmer, Anson Brown, George G. Scott, Abel Meeker, William T. Odell, Clement C. Hill and Theodore F. Hamilton.

The first physicians to locate in the village were Drs. Samuel Pitkin and Samuel Freeman. They were eminent men in their profession, and practiced with great success for many years. Dr. Freeman's home was on High street, where the residence of Mrs. Andrew Smith is now located. The last years of his life were spent in Saratoga Springs. Among Ballston's prominent physicians we may mention Leverett Moore, for fifty years the leading practitioner in the village; Drs. Eliphalet St. John, A. J. Chadsey, D. W. Culver, Charles T. Harris, Charles H. Andrus, Levi Weed, James F. Doolittle, F. A. Sherman, B. W. Noxon, Joseph G. Smith, and H. W. Lawrence.

One of the leading institutions of the village is the Spa Sanatorium, established by Dr. A. I. Thayer in May, 1902. Dr. Thayer purchased the large mansion on High street, for so many years the home of Judge Scott. The delightful surroundings, the invigorating air of the lower Adirondacks, and the Doctor's medical skill, have conspired to make the Sanatorium a success from the first.

THE SPA SANATORIUM, HIGH STREET.
Formerly the residence of Judge George G. Scott.

TRUSTEES AND PRESIDENTS.

1807-08—Joshua B. Aldridge, Stephen H. White, Nathan Lewis.

1809-10—Joshua B. Aldridge, Epenetus White, Jr., Amos Allcott.

1811-12—Elisha P. Langworthy, Gideon Luther, Epenetus White, Jr.

1813-14—Elisha P. Langworthy, Epenetus White, Jr., Archy Kasson.

1815—Farquhar McBain, Epenetus White, Jr., Moses Williams.

1816—Farquhar McBain, Moses Williams, Amos B. Allcott.

1817—Farquhar McBain, Amos Allcott, Elisha P. Langworthy.

1818—Lyman B. Langworthy, Andrew Watrous, Rowland A. Wright.

1819—Elisha P. Langworthy, Farquhar McBain, Amos Allcott.

1820-21—Epenetus White, Farquhar McBain, David Cory.

1822—Elisha P. Langworthy, Epenetus White, Jr., David Cory.

1823-4-5—Elisha P. Langworthy, Epenetus White, Jr., Farquhar McBain.

1826—Elisha P. Langworthy, Jonathan Williams, Edward Watrous.

1827—Thomas Palmer, Stephen Seaman, Andrew Watrous.

1828—Thomas Palmer, Samuel Smith, Hiram Middlebrook.

1829—Samuel Smith, Alpheus Goodrich, Hiram Middlebrook.

1830—James M. Cook, Czar H. Benedict, Joseph B. Mellen.

1831—Thomas Palmer, Alpheus Goodrich, Harvey Loomis.

1832—Philip H. McOmber, Rowland A. Wright, Robert Bennett.

1833—Stephen Smith, Jonathan Williams, Joseph Jennings.

1834—Oran G. Otis, Stephen Smith, David F. White.

1835—John W. Taylor, George Thompson, Jonathan S. Beach.

1836—John Carter, Jr., William G. Weed, James Remington.

1837—Stephen Fuller, Stephen Smith, Reuben Westcot.

1838—Stephen Fuller, Jesse K. Manning, Reuben Westcot.

1839—Lebbeus Booth, Samuel Hides, John Carter.

1840—John Carter, Joseph Jennings, Rowland A. Wright.

1841—John Wait, Richard Chase, Mitchell Black.

In 1842 the number of Trustees was increased to five, and the Board elected one of their number Village President.

1842-3—James M. Cook, president; Reuben Westcot, John Wait, Nathaniel M. Clark, Philip H. McOmber.

1844—James M. Cook, president; Nathaniel M. Clark, Reuben Westcot, Philip H. McOmber, James W. Horton.

1845—James M. Cook, president; James W. Horton, Wheeler K. Booth, Abel Meeker, Samuel Hides.

1846—Abel Meeker, president; James W. Horton, Wheeler K. Booth, Samuel H. Cook, Harvey Chapman.

1847—Abel Meeker, president; John McKown, John Tarrant, Callender Beecher, Samuel H. Cook.

1848—Samuel H. Cook, president; Abel Meeker, Edward W. Lee, Richard Chase, Amos W. Cook.

1849—Abel Meeker, president; Richard Chase, Samuel H. Cook, Squire Burnett, John McKown.

1850—George Thompson, president; Job Collamer, Albert D. W. Garrett, Stephen B. Medbery, Hiram Hall.

1851—Reuben Westcot, president; Arthur Parent, John Tarrant, Daniel W. Culver, Albert A. Munn.

1852—George Babcock, president; John Tarrant, Samuel Hides, George R. Thomas, Anthony Hicks.

1853—William T. Odell, president; James W. Morris, Anthony Tarrant, Samuel Hides, Lawrence W. Bristol.

1854—Lawrence W. Bristol, president; Augustus J. Goffe, Orville D. Vaughn, Anthony Tarrant, Sidney Dubois.

1855—Reuben Westcot, president; John Wait, James W. Culver, Edwin H. Chapman, Edwin Hall,

1856—Edwin H. Chapman, president; Adam Wilber, James W. Culver, John Wait, M. Lemet Williams.

1857—James O. Leach, president; Joseph Jennings, William W. Day, John B. McLean, William W. Arnold.

1858—Edward Gilborne, president; James F. Peckham, Alexander Van Epps, James D. Leroy, John B. Thomas.

1859—Seymour Chase, president; David Maxwell, Hiro Jones, James Allison, John S. Ford.

1860—Hiro Jones, president; David Maxwell, James Allison, Seymour Chase, John S. Ford.

1861—Albert P. Blood, president; Hiram M. Sherman, George W. Chapman, Jesse S. L'Amoreaux, John H. Wescot.

1862—David Maxwell, president; Lawrence W. Bristol, Michael St. John, Adam Wilber, James D. Leroy.

1863—Levi Weed, president; Michael St. John, Leverett Moore, John H. Westcot, Hiram M. Sherman.

1864—John Wait, president; Benjamin F. Allen, Edwin H. Chapman, David Maxwell, Edward D. Babcock.

1865—David Maxwell, president; James F. Hurd, Morgan Lewis, Nelson R. Vandenburgh, William Warner.

1866-7—John H. Westcot, president; Henry A. Mann, Jesse S. L'Amoreaux, Leverett Moore, John S. Ford.

1868-9—George G. Scott, president; James F. Peckham, George Smith, Charles J. Newton, John B. Thomas.

1870—Henry A. Mann, president; Charles J. Newton, Seth Whalen, Philip N. Viele, David Maxwell.

1871—Henry A. Mann, president; S. H. Van Steenburgh, Alvah C. Dake, James F. Peckham, N. R. Vandenburgh.

1872-3—Henry A. Mann, president; Alvah C. Dake, N. R. Vandenburgh, James F. Peckham, John H. Westcot.

1874—Albert P. Blood, president; William Garrett, Michael Rhatigan, Henry A. Mann, James F. Peckham.

1875—Henry A. Mann, president; Stephen C. Medbery, Smith Hovey, Joseph S. Thomas, George M. Winne.

1876—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Smith Hovey, Joseph E. Westcot, John Brown, Frank Cunningham.

1877—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Jacob D. Allen, Jeremiah Griffin, Joseph E. Westcot, Joseph S. Thomas.

1878—George West, Jr., president; Jeremiah Griffin, Jacob D. Allen, Joseph E. Westcot, Alonzo M. Shepherd.

1879—Alonzo M. Shepherd, president; Rush H. Young, James F. Peckham, Abijah Comstock, George R. Beach.

1880—Alonzo M. Shepherd, president; Rush H. Young, Abijah Comstock, Stephen C. Medbery, Jeremiah Griffin.

1881—Rush H. Young, president; Jeremiah Griffin, John F. Holmes, John H. Van Steenburgh, Henry Lowry.

1882—Jeremiah Griffin, president; Owen Sweeney, John H. Van Steenburgh, John F. Holmes, Abijah Comstock.

1883—Alfred N. Wiley, president; Henry Harrison, Charles M. Brown, James Dunk, Riley B. Palmer.

1884—Alfred N. Wiley, president; Henry Harrison, N. R. Vandenburgh, James Dunk, Douglass W. Mabee.

In 1885 for the first time the village President was elected by the People, and the term of the Trustees was made two years, three being elected in one year, and two in the alternate years.

1885—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Henry Harrison, Douglass W. Mabee, N. R. Vandenburgh, James A. Burnham, James F. Robinson.

1886—Rush H. Young, president; Henry Harrison, Douglass W. Mabee, N. R. Vandenburgh, Smith Hovey, Willard W. Brown.

1887—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Smith Hovey, Willard W. Brown, Douw F. Winney, Eben S. Lawrence, Daniel A. Foote.

1888—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Douw F. Winney, Eben S. Lawrence, Daniel A. Foote, Charles M. Arnold, C. Fred Wheeler.

1889—Stephen C. Medbery, president; C. Fred Wheeler, Charles M. Arnold, George E. Settle, Frank E. Mitchell, Daniel A. Foote.

1890—Alonzo M. Shepherd, president; George E. Settle, Frank E. Mitchell, Daniel A. Foote, Frank J. Holmes, David Thompson.

1891—Abijah Comstock, president; Frank J. Holmes, David Thompson, Byron L. Cole, Frank J. Sherman, Walter Furlong.

1892—Douglass W. Mabee, president; Byron S. Cole, Frank J. Sherman, Walter Furlong, Frank J. Holmes, Smith Hovey.

1893—Charles O. McCreedy, president; Frank J. Holmes, Smith Hovey, Frank J. Sherman, Walter Furlong, George Castle.

1894—Eben S. Lawrence, president; Frank J. Sherman, Walter Furlong, George Castle, John Watson, W. Odell Sweet.

1895—Eben S. Lawrence, president; John Watson, W. Odell Sweet, Lyman D. Sherwood, Henry Haight, Frank R. Wilson.

1896—Thomas Finley, president; Lyman D. Sherwood, Henry Haight, Frank R. Wilson, W. Odell Sweet, William Clements.

1897—Douglass W. Mabee, president; W. Odell Sweet, William Clements, Thomas J. Tracy, Daniel A. Foote, David Thompson.

In 1898 the number of Trustees was increased to six, three to be elected each year.

1898—Douglass W. Mabee, president; Albert H. Van Arnem, Henry Miller, John L. Thomas, Thomas J. Tracy, David Thompson, Daniel A. Foote.

1899—Charles O. McCreedy, president; Albert H. Van Arnem, Henry Miller, John L. Thomas, Douw F. Winney, W. Odell Sweet, Willard W. Brown.

1900—Charles O. McCreedy, president; Douw F. Winney, W. Odell Sweet, Willard W. Brown, William S. Waterbury, Thomas W. Brown, Albert H. Van Arnem.

1901—Stephen C. Medbery, president; William S. Waterbury, Thomas W. Brown, Albert H. Van Arnem, Irving W. Wiswall, John N. Hutchins, Hugh S. Finley.

1902—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Irving W. Wiswall, John N. Hutchins, Hugh S. Finley, William S. Waterbury, Albert H. Van Arnem, Charles B. Cole.

1903—Stephen C. Medbery, president; William S. Waterbury, Albert H. Van Arnem, Charles B. Cole, Irving W. Wiswall, John Corning, Hugh S. Finley.

1904—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Irving W. Wiswall, John Corning, Hugh S. Finley, Charles B. Cole, Dennis Manogue, William S. Waterbury.

1905—Stephen C. Medbery, president; Charles B. Cole, Dennis Manogue, William S. Waterbury, Alexander T. McKinnon, John Corning, Hugh S. Finley.

1906—Irving W. Wiswall, president; Alexander T. McKinnon, John Corning, Hugh S. Finley, Leander Spicer, George W. Miller, Edwin T. Norman.

1907—Irving W. Wiswall, president; Leander Spicer, George W. Miller, John Corning, Hugh S. Finley, William S. Waterbury, Nelson F. Pitts.

OLD COURT HOUSE.

NEW COURT HOUSE.

The County Seat

ON the seventh day of February, 1791, Saratoga County was set off from Albany County by an Act of the Legislature, which enacted that the county "shall be one separate and distinct county, and be called and known by the name of Saratoga."

Governor Clinton immediately appointed officials for the new county, as follows: John Thompson of Stillwater, first judge; James Gordon and Beriah Palmer of Ballston, Jacobus Van Schoonhoven of Halfmoon, and Sidney Berry of Saratoga, judges; Jacob Fort, Jr., of Halfmoon, sheriff; Dirck Swart of Stillwater, clerk; Sidney Berry of Saratoga, surrogate; Guert Van Schoonhoven of Halfmoon, treasurer.

Two years later, in 1794, a commission was appointed to locate the county seat, and to build a court-house and jail. Ballston Village, later known as Academy Hill, contested with a thriving settlement which had grown up around the Presbyterian church in the locality now known as Milton Hill, for the location of the county capital. While the claims of these two rivals were being strongly pressed, Edward A. Watrous, who lived on the hill on the "middle line," offered to give the county a site on his farm, to be public property so long as occupied by the court house and jail. The offer was accepted by the commission, and Ballston became the shire town, and Court House Hill the county seat.

The first court in the county was a session of the Court of Common Pleas held May 10, 1791, at the residence of Samuel Clark, on the "east line road," in the present town of Malta. From this time until the completion of the Court House in 1796, the courts were held in the "red meeting house" in Ballston. The May term, 1796, of the Common Pleas and Court of Sessions was the first court held in the new court house.

The court house and jail was burned during the night of March 23, 1816. The Independent American, published in Ballston Spa, gave the following account of the fire:

"On Sunday morning last at one o'clock a fire broke out in the northwest corner of the court house in the town of Ballston, which had so progressed before it was discovered that all attempts at quelling it proved abortive. The air was very still, otherwise the contiguous buildings must have shared the same fate. One of the prisoners, named George Billings, who was chained to the floor, was unfortunately consumed. Four prisoners, Shearer, Davis, (colored), Cole and Drapoo, made their escape. Two of them have since been retaken, to wit: Shearer and Davis. A court of enquiry was instituted in this village, and from their examination on the subject of the fire did not hestitate to give it as their opinion that the fire was communicated to the building by one or more of the prisoners."

At this time, through the development of the mineral springs, Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs had become the chief centers of population in the county. Each village now put forth its claims for the location of the county seat within their respective limits. The question was again determined by an offer of land. Mr. Nicholas Low, of Ballston Spa, offered as a free gift to the county the land on which the court house and county clerk's office now stand. The offer was accepted, and Ballston Spa became the county seat. This resulted not only in making this village the official center of the county, but the political center also.

The new court house and jail, erected in 1819, was a handsome brick building, and enlarged and improved in later years, was occupied until 1889, when it was demolished and the present court house and jail, and jailor's residence took its place. This building was greatly enlarged and improved in 1904.

From the erection of the county in 1791 until the year 1824, the records of the county were kept at the homes of the various county

clerks. In this year the old county clerk's office was built on Front street. It was a stone building, and its builders believed it to be large enough to accommodate the county records for all time. They were mistaken,

County Clerk's Office—1824.

however, and in 1866 the clerk's office on High street was built. This building was enlarged in 1904 to more than double its former size.

CIVIL LIST.

The following residents of the village have been honored with public office since the year 1801:

Presidential Elector — George L. Thompson, 1884; voted for Grover Cleveland.

Representatives in Congress—John W. Taylor, 1813 to 1833; Anson Brown, 1839; George West, 1881 to 1885, 1887.

State Treasurer—James M. Cook, 1852.

State Comptroller—James M. Cook, 1854.

Superintendent Banking Department—James M. Cook, 1856 to 1862.

Canal Commissioner—George W. Chapman, 1870.

Superintendent Public Instruction—Neil Gilmour, 1874 to 1883.

Delegate to Constitutional Convention—James M. Cook, 1846.

State Senators—John W. Taylor, 1841; James M. Cook, 1848 to 1851; George G. Scott, 1858; Isaiah Blood, 1860; Harvey J. Donaldson, 1890 to 1895.

Members of Assembly—James Merrill, 1801; Gideon Goodrich, 1803, 1807; Joel Lee, 1810, 1836; John W. Taylor, 1812-13; Alpheus Goodrich, 1828; Isaiah Blood, 1852; George G. Scott, 1856; George W. Chapman, 1865; George West, 1872-3-4-5-6, Benjamin F. Baker, 1880-1-2; John H. Burke, 1887; Harvey J. Donaldson, 1888-9; George H. West, 1899, 1900.

Judge Common Pleas—Samuel Cook, 1820; George G. Scott, 1838.

Masters in Chancery—Thomas Palmer, 1808, 1823; Callender Beecher, 1843.

Examiners in Chancery—Samuel Cook, 1823.

County Judge—Jesse S. L'Amoreaux, 1883.

Justices of Sessions—David Maxwell, 1850, 1854, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1868; Augustus E. Brown, 1856-7; William Warner, 1867; John Brown, 1876.

Sheriffs—John Dunning, 1823, 1829; Lyman B. Langworthy, 1826; Joseph Jennings, 1835; Samuel Freeman, 1838; Philip H. McOmber, 1856; George B. Powell, 1859; Frank Jones, 1895.

Surrogates—Thomas Palmer, 1812, 1815; John W. Thompson, 1834 to 1847.

County Clerks—Levi H. Palmer, 1813; William Stillwell, 1815; Thomas Palmer, 1818 to 1833; Alpheus Goodrich, 1833 to 1840; Horace Goodrich, 1843; James W. Horton, 1846 to 1885; Seth Whalen, 1885 to 1887; James L. Scott, 1887; Edward F. Grose, 1888 to 1902; George H. West, 1902 to 1907.

Deputy County Clerks—J. Oakley Nodyne, M. Lemet Williams, John B. McLean, Joseph E. Westcot, John F. Hennessey.

County Treasurers—Archy Kasson, 1810 to 1815; Azariah W. Odell, 1815 to 1822; Edward A. Watrous, 1822 to 1831; George Thompson, 1831 to 1844; Arnold Harris, 1844 to 1847; Edward W. Lee, 1847 to 1849; Arnold Harris, 1849 to 1854; Orville D. Vaughn, 1855 to 1861; Henry A. Mann, 1861 to 1876; Stephen C. Medbery, 1879 to 1898.

District Attorneys—William T. Odell, 1851 to 1857; John Person, 1893-4-5; James A. Burnham, 1895 to 1899; Horace E. McKnight, 1904 to 1907.

Coroners—Hezekiah Middlebrook, 1806; Lyman B. Langworthy, 1817-18-19-20; Chester Clapp, 1821-2; Reuben Westcot, 1823; Henry White, 1844; James H. Lockwood, 1847-50; Nathaniel J. Seely, 1853-6-9; James F. Doolittle, 1859; Charles H. Andrus, 1860; John Barrett, 1863; David F. White, 1866, 1872; Benjamin W. Noxon, 1875; Walton W. French, 1881; Eben S. Lawrence, 1884.

Superintendents of Poor—Alpheus Goodrich, 1827; Moses Williams, 1828; Lebbeus Booth, William Hawkins, 1835 to 1842; William Hawkins, John Wait, Edward W. Lee, 1842-3; Lebbeus Booth, Abraham Middlebrook, James H. Speir, 1844-5-6; John Kelly, John Wait, William W. Arnold, 1847; Abraham Middlebrook, 1848 to 1857.

Commissioners of Loans—John W. Taylor, 1808 to 1829; George G. Scott, 1843 to 1850; Lebbeus Booth, 1840 to 1843; Albert A. Moor, 1855 to 1861; James L. Scott, 1883 to 1886; Seymour Rowley, 1895 to 1897.

School Commissioners—Charles D. Seely, 1858 to 1861; Seymour Chase, 1861 to 1864; Neil Gilmour, 1867 to 1870, 1873-4; Henry L. Grose, 1874-5; Nelson L. Roe, 1876 to 1879.

Supervisors—Ballston: William H. Wendell, 1852; Abel Meeker, 1853-4; John Wait, 1858-9; George G. Scott, 1860 to 1881; George L. Thompson, 1891; Douw F. Winney, 1894-5-6-7. Milton: Thomas Palmer, 1822 to 1833; James M. Cook, 1838, 1844, 1845; Abraham Middlebrook, 1839; Sylvester Blood, 1840-41; Isaiah Blood, 1847, 1859, 1869; Daniel W. Culver, 1848, 1852, 1856; John Tallmage,

1849; George W. Ingalls, 1853, 1857, 1861; John W. Thompson, 1854; William T. Odell, 1858, 1860; George W. Chapman, 1862; Cornwell M. Noxon, 1863; Edwin H. Chapman, 1864-5; Hiro Jones, 1866-7-8, 1871; John Wait, 1870; John McLean, 1873; George West, Jr., 1874-5; George L. Thompson, 1876-7-8-9, 1881-2-3-4; Abijah Comstock, 1885-8-9; Martin Lee, 1886; John Richards, 1887; William W. Sweet, 1890; Eben S. Lawrence, 1891; Frank J. Sherman, 1892; Samuel Thompson, 1893; Frederick H. Beach, 1894-5-6-7; Thomas Finley, 1898 to 1907.

Century Elm, Ballston Spa.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE ERECTED IN 1866.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 1907. COURT HOUSE. HIGH STREET.

The Press of Ballston Spa

THE History of Saratoga County, by Mr. N. B. Sylvester, published in 1878, gives an account of "The Ballston Press." It was written for that work by the late Rev. H. L. Grose, and some extracts from it will be found in the following history of the Press of Ballston Spa:

THE BALLSTON JOURNAL.

The first number of the first newspaper published in Saratoga County was issued at Court House Hill, on June 14, 1798, under the name of Saratoga Register or Farmer's Journal. The sheet was about one-half the present size of the Ballston Daily Journal. Under the title were these words: "Ballston, Saratoga County; printed every Wednesday morning by Increase and William Child, over the store of Messrs. Robert Leonard & Co., nearly opposite the Court House, where subscriptions for this paper, articles of intelligence, miscellaneous pieces, advertisements, etc., are thankfully received, and printing in general executed with neatness and dispatch, and on moderate terms."

For one hundred and nine years the paper established by the Messrs. Child has appeared regularly each week, and during this long period has been an important factor in the intellectual, political and social life of the village, and of the county. The name of the paper has been changed several times, but for the last sixty years has been known as "The Ballston Journal."

The Journal supported the administration of President John Adams, then the head of the political party which bore the name of Federal, and which was opposed by the party called Republican, whose acknowledged leader was Jefferson. These party divisions had grown out of discussions in Congress during the first administration of Washington, whose second election was a triumph of the Federal party, as was the election of Adams, under whose presidency the "alien and sedition laws" were passed, with features so obnoxious as to defeat him at his next candidacy.

The Journal favored those laws, as is shown by the following article copied from the issue of August 22, 1798:

"There is at the present so strong an opposition to the measures of the general government prevailing through the counties of Ulster and Orange, that it is dangerous for a man to applaud the administration, and he is fortunate to escape personal injury. In many parts of those counties the friend of the government is viewed as an enemy to the general cause, and is treated with marked contempt and disrespect. Almost every town exhibits a Liberty Pole, as they falsely term it, which these sons of Belial have erected to their idol faction. Our informants saw these poles at Newburg, New Windsor, Montgomery, Wardsbridge, Goshen, Florida, Warwick, etc., etc., but they could give us no information concerning the intention of this combination of knaves and fools to oppose the execution of the laws by force. We believe, however, they know too well their own insignificance and weakness to be the deliberate authors of their own destruction. The sedition and stamp acts, added to their long invited enmity to the Constitution, are the chief cause of this display of Republican fervor. The former of these laws will never give a moment's uneasiness to any good citizen; and the latter imposes a tax which promises to be highly productive, and not felt by the agriculturalist, as it will fall almost exclusively on the mercantile part of the community."

FIRST BOOK PRINTED.

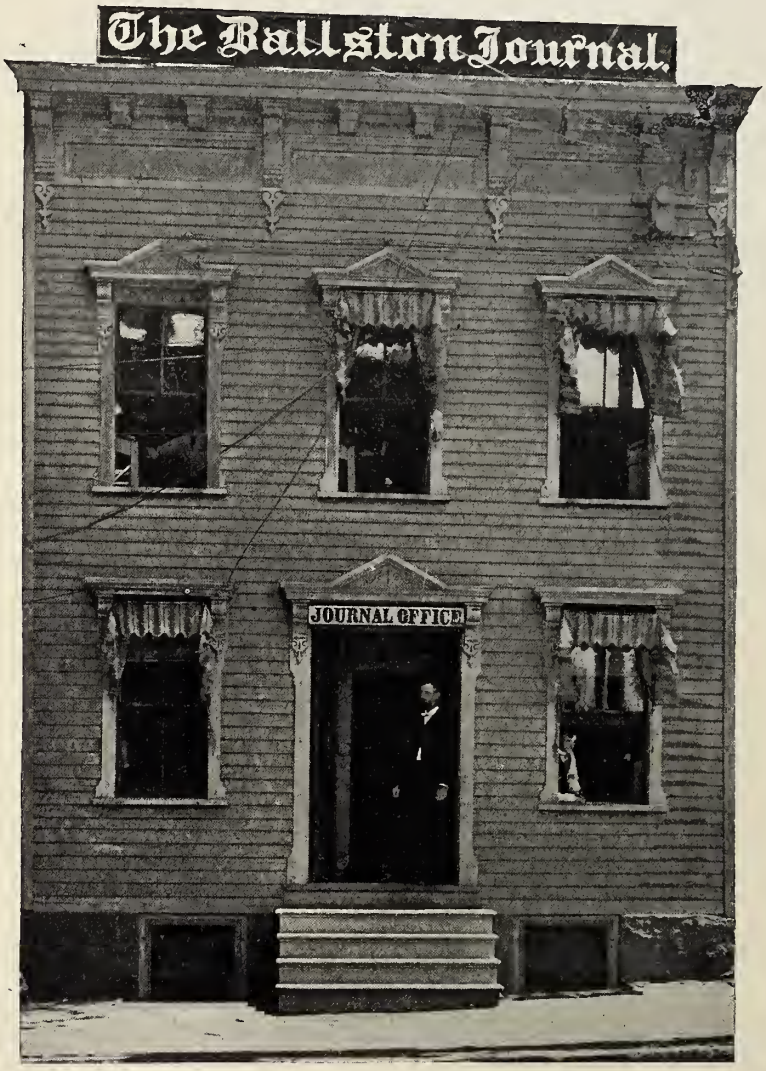
The first book ever printed in the county was from the press of the Childs in 1798, soon after the establishment of the paper. It was entitled "A Plain Account of the Ordinance of Baptism; in which all the texts in the New Testament relating to it are proved, and the whole Doctrine concerning it drawn from them alone. In a Course of Letters to the Right Rev. Dr. Benjamin Hoadley, late Lord Bishop of Winchester, author of the 'Plain Account of the Lord's Supper;' ye shall not add unto the word which I have commanded you, neither shall you diminish from it. First Ballston Edition. London.

Printed: Ballston. Re-printed by I. & W. Child. Sold at their Printing-Office, nearly opposite the Court House, 1798."

In April, 1800, the firm of Increase & William Child dissolved, William becoming the sole proprietor.

bering over one thousand, are printed at the end of the volume.

Mr. Child continued the paper under its original name until September 27, 1808, on which day it was issued under the name of The Independent American.



SECOND BOOK PRINTED.

In that year William Child printed a book of two hundred and twenty-two pages, entitled "A Plea for the Non-Comformists," by Thomas Delaune, with a preface by Rev. Elias Lee, pastor of the Baptist church at Ballston Spa. It was published by subscription, and the names of the subscribers, num-

James Madison was elected President in 1808, after an unusually exciting campaign. Party spirit ran high, and was kept up long after the inauguration in 1809. Madison was the candidate of the Democratic party, the Republican party having fully accepted the title of "Democratic party" in 1805, by which name it has ever since been known. From the issue of June, 1809, are taken the follow-

ing extracts, to show that political writing was as harsh and severe as in these later times:

"It is whispered in private Democratic circles at Washington that Madison has turned a damned Federalist. The next President is to be pledged beforehand to a certain line of policy. General Snyder has been mentioned as a candidate, but it is generally thought that though he has by no means too much sense, he has too little nerve, as he did not carry on the war against the United States with sufficient energy.

"The gentlemen who now appear to be most peculiarly possessed of what are now settled to be the true Democratic qualifications for the presidency are Mr. Smilie, Mr. Alston, and Mr. Alexander Wilson; the last a representative of Virginia, as different a man in point of mind from his namesake, the author of the 'American Ornithology,' as a Satyr is different from a Hyperion.

"Some of the Democrats begin to cast the blame of the recent settlement with Great Britain upon the President's wife. They say she is a Federalist, and has too much influence over her spouse. What a happy circumstance it would have been for this country had Thomas Jefferson been governed by such a woman!"

In 1811 Mr. Child sold to James Comstock, and soon after the printing office was moved to Ballston Spa.

THIRD BOOK PRINTED.

In 1811 Mr. Comstock printed a book of ninety-four pages entitled "Lectures on the Prophecies," etc., by Elhanan Winchester. It is bound in the same cover with a book entitled "The Three Woe-Trumpets," by Elhanan Winchester.

In 1814 Mr. Comstock printed the first Temperance tract ever published in the State of New York.

In 1816 Horatio Gates Spafford, LL.D., became proprietor and changed the name to the Saratoga Farmer. In 1821 he made the title The Ballston Spa Gazette and Saratoga Farmer. Mr. Spafford was a learned, intelligent, well-informed man, and an indefatigable worker. He compiled and published the first complete Gazetteer of the State in 1813, and in 1824 republished it, with large additions, making it more accurate and complete, embodying a vast amount of useful information from which others have drawn in later years.

He removed to Albany in 1822, disposing of his paper to its former proprietor, James Comstock, who abbreviated the name to The Ballston Spa Gazette, under which it was continued until 1847. For thirty years Mr. Comstock had charge of the paper, conducting it ably and successfully.

FOURTH BOOK PRINTED.

In 1822 Mr. Comstock issued from his press the fourth book printed in Ballston, entitled "The Friend of Peace," a volume of three hundred and eight pages, designed to show the evils of war and the blessings of peace.

In 1846 the first daily ever printed in Ballston Spa was published by James Comstock under the title of Ballston Spa Daily Telegraph. It was a small sheet of four pages, containing four columns to the page.

In April, 1847, J. O. Nodyne became proprietor, and changed the name to Ballston Democratic Whig Journal. January 18, 1848, Albert A. Moor became joint proprietor with Mr. Nodyne, the name being shortened to The Ballston Journal. On December 5 of this year, Mr. Moor became sole proprietor, and continued as editor and proprietor about twelve years. He was a good writer, a member of the Bar, and for several years one of the Loan Commissioners of the county.

In April, 1860, Henry L. Grose became editor and proprietor of the Journal, and continued as editor for nearly thirty-nine years, and until his death on September 7, 1898. During this period the four sons of Mr. Grose, H. Seward, Edward F., Howard B. and Charles H., were at different times associated with him in the management of the Journal.

The second daily in Ballston Spa was printed during the summer of 1871, under the name of Ballston Daily Journal.

September 1, 1894, the Ballston Daily Journal was established as a permanent daily paper. It is now in its fourteenth year, and the weekly Journal in its one hundred and ninth year. Charles H. Grose, the youngest son of H. L. Grose, is the proprietor.

The political relations of the paper whose history has been thus fully sketched will readily be known by the character of the presidential administrations it has supported or opposed, and for that character any general history of our country may be consulted. The

administrations opposed were those of Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, Van Buren, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, Johnson and Cleveland, extending over a period of fifty-two years. It supported the administrations of John Adams, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, tion of a beautifully illustrated souvenir of twenty-eight pages.

In 1804 David C. Miller began at Court House Hill the publication of the Saratoga

Ballston Journal.

"FRIENDLY TO THE BEST PURSUITS OF MAN, FRIENDLY TO THOUGHT, TO VIRTUE, AND TO PEACE."

VOL. XIV.—NUMBER 1. BALLSTON SPA, N. Y., TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1860. WHOLE NUMBER, 638.

Fac-simile of First Number of The Journal published by H. L. Grose & Sons in 1860.

Harrison and Tyler, Taylor and Fillmore, Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt, extending over a period of fifty-six years.

The Journal commemorated its one hundredth anniversary in 1898, by the publication of a beautifully illustrated souvenir of twenty-eight pages.

In 1804 David C. Miller began at Court House Hill the publication of the Saratoga Advertiser, size of page thirteen by eighteen inches. In 1806 a man named Riggs was taken into partnership. He sold his interest in 1807 to Samuel R. Brown, and the name was coolly changed to The Aurora Borealis and Saratoga Advertiser. In 1808 Mr. Brown retired and Mr. Miller restored the original

name. The paper was discontinued in 1809, and the office merged into that of The Independent American. Mr. Miller moved to Johnstown and started the Montgomery Monitor in January, 1810. In 1811 he moved to Batavia, Genesee county, and there, in partnership with Benjamin Blodgett, started the Republican Advocate which is still published. He printed the Morgan pamphlet, which professed to disclose the secrets of the first three degrees of Freemasonry; and a weekly paper called The Morgan Intelligencer, was issued from his office in 1827, continuing about a year. At that day he was a conspicuous and famous man.

The Literary Picture Gallery and Admonitory Epistles to the visitors of Ballston Spa, by Simeon Senex, Esquire, was issued during the season of 1808, in numbers of eight pages each: size of page five by eight inches. It was printed at the office of Miller & Riggs for I. Cook.

The Rural Visitor and Saratoga Advertiser, appeared April 7, 1812. It was an eight page paper, size of page eight by ten inches. In politics it was Democratic, in opposition to the Federal party. The first number states that it is "printed and published by John Howe, for the proprietor," but the proprietor's name is not disclosed. The paper had a brief existence.

The first number of The Saratoga Journal was published in Ballston Spa the first week in January, 1814, by Isaiah Bunce. In politics it was Democratic, the party then opposed to the Federal party. The Federals in Saratoga County were few—the Democrats many; and having everything their own way, in 1816 there was a split in their ranks, one faction being called "Old Liners," embracing such prominent men as John W. Taylor, David Rogers, George Palmer, Thomas Palmer, Seth C. Baldwin, Lyman B. Langworthy, A. W. Odell, Esek Cowen and others. The "New Liners," so called, embraced such men as Judge James Thompson, Samuel Young, Joel Lee, Judge Salmon Child, William Stilwell, Colonel Isaac Gere and others. The Journal was very violent in its opposition to the "New Liners," and consequently they established an organ of their own, whose history follows. The Journal was discontinued February 11, 1818.

The Saratoga Courier was issued at Ballston Spa in 1816, with Ulysses F. Doubleday as editor. This reduced the patronage of the Journal without securing sufficient for its own maintenance, and in less than two years its publication was suspended. In February, 1818, Mr. Doubleday began another weekly named the Saratoga Republican, which he conducted until 1823, when he removed to Auburn and bought an interest in the Cayuga Patriot, of which he became the editor. He was Member of Congress in 1831 and 1835, and was conspicuous among the public men of the time.

Doubleday House, 1807-1907.

The People's Watchtower was started by James Comstock May 13, 1818, and continued until 1822, when Mr. Comstock purchased the Ballston Spa Gazette and Saratoga Farmer, and the Watchtower was merged into the older paper, the name being shortened to Ballston Spa Gazette.

The Saratoga Recorder and Anti-Masonic Democrat was started in 1831 by Thomas Jefferson Sutherland. The purpose of its publication is indicated by the title. At the end of a year it was discontinued.

The New York Palladium was begun in 1831 by Ansel Warren. It supported the administration of Andrew Jackson. In 1832 it was bought by Israel Sackett, and the name changed to The Schenectady and Saratoga Standard. Elias G. Palmer became proprietor in 1833, and gave it the name of The Ballston Spa Republican. It supported the admin-

istrations of Jackson and Van Buren until the latter part of the year 1839, when it was discontinued.

The Ballston Democrat was started in 1845 by Newell Hine, J. O. L. Tourville, printer. The name indicates its politics and it gave its best support to James K. Polk for President. In 1848 Thomas G. Young, son of Hon. Samuel Young, became proprietor and editor. He sold to Seymour Chase in 1853, who consolidated it with The Northern Mirror, which was established in 1850 by Sanford H. Curtis and John E. Lee, and first named The Gem of the North. In 1851 Mr. Chase bought the paper and changed the name to The Northern Mirror. After the union the title was The Ballston Democrat and Mirror.

In January, 1853, The Temperance Helper was established by the Carson League, a county temperance society. The paper was printed at the Democrat office for about a year, when the publishing committee opened a new office, in which was set up the first cylinder press used in the county. In 1855 the establishment was sold to Potter & Judson, and removed to Saratoga Springs. In 1856 the paper joined the Republican ranks, supporting John C. Fremont for the presidency. The name was changed to The Saratogian, which it still bears.

The American Examiner, an organ of the "Know Nothings," was first issued in the early part of the year 1855, by Joseph B. Brown. In November, 1856, Seymour Chase purchased the paper, and merged it with the Democrat. A few years later the name was changed to The Ballston Atlas, in politics following the Albany Atlas, which supported the Free-soil wing of the Democratic party under the lead of Martin Van Buren. In 1860 the Atlas supported the nomination of Stephen A. Douglas for the presidency. Abraham A. Keyser became proprietor January 1, 1861, and in April following sold to Ephraim W. Reynolds. In 1864 Mr. Reynolds sold to Daniel Shepherd who moved the office to Saratoga Springs, where for a few months he issued the paper under the name of the Saratoga County Democrat, when he suspended the publication.

In December, 1865, Sanford H. Curtis and Enos R. Mann, of Ballston Spa, revived the paper under the original name, The Ballston Democrat. The partnership was dissolved after a few months, and John M. Waterbury became proprietor in 1866. He changed the name to The Ballston Register. In 1868 he sold to his brother, William S. Waterbury, and the paper again assumed its original name —The Ballston Democrat. In 1889 M. P. Morse became proprietor, and some time after changed the name to The Saratoga County Democrat.

The Ballston Daily News was started by Mr. Morse in 1889. It was neutral in politics, and so remained for about four years, when it came out squarely as a Democratic paper. Messrs. Cole & Burnham bought the establishment in 1900, and soon after the office was destroyed by fire. A stock company was then organized, by whom the publication of the Daily News is continued, the weekly Democrat having been discontinued.

Ballston Spa in the Past

WHEN Ballston Spa was in its glory as the first watering place and most famous summer resort in America, among the thousands who came to quaff of its healing waters were many tourists. Some of them have written entertainingly of their experiences, and of what they saw at "The Springs."

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED ELEVEN.

In his book of "Travels in the United States of America, printed in Philadelphia in 1812, Mr. John Melish gives an account of a visit to Ballston in 1811. He made the journey from Johnstown by way of Broadalbin, Fish House and Milton. He writes:

"The soil is good round Milton, which accounts for the handsome appearance of the houses, and a Quaker meeting house[1] denoted that the ground was partly occupied by some of those sagacious people.

"Beyond this the soil is very sandy and barren, with pine trees of a small growth; but the people seem determined to make amends for the sterility of the soil in another way; for, passing a creek, I saw an elegant new building of seven stories high, which had been recently erected for the manufacture of woolen cloth.[2] From thence the road winds through the woods, and the soil continues poor all the way to Ballston, which I reached in the evening.

"I took a view of the town as I passed through it; and it is soon seen, as it contains seventy dwelling houses only. It lies in a hollow, and the spring is at the lower end of it, near a small creek. The houses are mostly built of wood, and some of the boarding houses are very handsome. One is uncommonly superb, and is said to have cost upwards of $60,000.[3]

"Soon after I reached the village I went to see the spring.[4] It is enclosed by a railing, the interior being handsomely paved with stone, and the water is secured from all filth by a metallic tube of about eighteen inches diameter, elevated a few feet above the top of the spring, which rises copiously with a boiling motion, and the surplus water passes off by a horizontal pipe. The water was quite agreeable to my taste, and produced an exhilarating effect upon the spirits. It emits a slight smell, but not unpleasant, and is copiously impregnated with fixed air, or carbonic acid gas.

"The medicinal virtues of these waters have of late attracted much attention, and Ballston has become a place of fashionable resort in the summer season. Ballston is twenty-eight miles from Albany. There are two roads, one by Schenectady, the other by Waterford; and it makes a very agreeable jaunt to go the one way and return the other. Schenectady is one of the finest inland cities in America. On the other road is the pleasant village of Waterford, and the Cohoes falls.

"The village is supported by the visitors to the springs, so that, except in the summer season, it is but a dull place. Boarding at the principal houses is eight dollars per week, but there are smaller houses, having inferior accommodations at four dollars. There is an Academy and library in the village, and besides taverns and boarding houses, there are five dry-goods and grocery stores. There are two public papers issued weekly, of which, the one circulates seven hundred, the other four hundred."

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE.

In a book entitled "A Pedestrian Tour made in 1821 by P. Stansbury," the account of our village given by the writer presents facts of interest. After speaking of Saratoga the writer says:

"Ballston Springs are six miles hence in a southwesterly direction, between which and Saratoga Springs the land is one sandy, uninteresting plain. At the village of Ballston Spa the landscape assumes a more pleasing variety; a branch of the Kayaderosseras rolls through a little valley, washing the basements of the lower houses, and wind-

[1] There was a Quaker meeting-house in Galway, on the route probably taken, but none in Milton. The meeting-house referred to was doubtless that of the Presbyterians at Milton Hill.

[2] The factory of the Milton Manufacturing Society, erected in 1810. It stood on the north side of the highway, running east and west and gave the name of Factory Village to that locality. It was built on the precipitous east bank of the Kayaderosseras, being three stories in height on the highway, and seven stories at the water's edge. The factory was destroyed by fire in 1821 and rebuilt. In later years it was converted into a paper mill, and was burned in 1874.

[3] The Sans Souci hotel.

[4] The original or "iron-railing" spring. In 1820 a bottle of this water, securely corked, was placed in a well in Charlton. About the year 1870 the bottle was taken from the well, and on extracting the cork, the water was as lively and pungent as when taken from the spring more than half a century before.

ing until it is lost among the high hills which lie in the vicinity. Hotels, academies and churches rise magnificent above the tops of extensive ranges of wool and cotton manufactories, and stamp upon the features of the place a character of great wealth and grandeur.

"The fountains are situated in different parts of the village. A convenient footwalk leads over the stream to Low's springs, consisting of numerous spouts, contained under the basement room of a hotel, and further onward to the Washington fountain, a very large and high spout enclosed in a railing and furnished with proper conveniences for drinking. It is in the form of an obelisk, rising five or six feet above the ground, rendered of a bright red color by the chalybeate qualities of the fluid; the top is open and the water copiously boiling over, and streaming in handsome cascades down the sides. Scarcely three yards distant gushes from the same soil a fountain of the purest and coldest water, without the slighest particle of saline or chalybeate ingredient. It forms a little rivulet rippling beautifully over the stones of the creek, while its neighbor angrily bubbles and mingles in the same stream, with a fiery train of red iron-colored pebbles.

"In the middle of the village an iron railing surrounds a hollow area, with steps descending to the bottom, in which the fountain principally resorted to gushes over the top of a spout two feet high and runs off in a regular stream. The water from this fountain is in general use among the villagers, who admire its gently stimulating properties, and even prefer it to the costly spirituous and fermented liquor of the shops.

"Persons were sitting upon the steps, within the railing, contemplating the bubbling fluid and considering the wonderful effects of nature's secret operations; and ever and anon some pallid invalid, some hearty farmer, some delicate female, some blustering fashionable youth, descended to the fountain and applied the simmering cup to their lips. The day was gloomy. Mingling with the murmurs of the adjacent creek, the sweet strains of a well played violin floated from the nearest boarding house, and agreeably corresponded with emotions which the place excited. I looked with admiration upon the scene, and, like many others, contemplated the air bubbles with real satisfaction. Early the next morning I left the springs for Schenectady, not a little regretting to part with the social company of the hotel where I lodged."

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE.

"The Traveler's Guide," published in New Haven, Conn., by Nathan Whitney in 1823, gives the following description of the village:

"Ballston Spa is partly in Ballston, but chiefly in Milton, and is the capital of Saratoga county, N. Y., twenty-six miles north of Albany, and is of a beautiful and romantic situation. Its population 1,909. It has a court house, two printing offices, a book store, with which is connected a circulating library and a reading room, an Academy and two houses for public worship—one for Episcopalians and one for Baptists. This place is famous for its mineral waters, which are much frequented by the gay and fashionable during the months of July and August.

"Hence, in addition to several inns, there are three large boarding houses expressly designed for the accommodation of strangers. In the summer of 1818, 2,500 persons visited these springs, of whom more than 1,200 were from States south of New York state. The waters possess a stimulating and refreshing quality. Under the exhaustion of heat and fatigue, nothing can be more agreeable and reviving to the system. As a powerful remedy also in many diseases, they are well known and highly celebrated. Letters intended for persons residing at the springs should be directed to Ballston Spa, as there is another post-office in the town of Ballston at some distance from that village."

The same book tells of the attractions of Saratoga Springs as a fashionable resort, and gives the names of the principal springs of that date. They were the High Rock, Congress, Red, and Columbian springs. The population was 1,909, exactly the same as that of Ballston Spa.

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE.

The Northern Traveler, a guide to tourists and "such as travel for pleasure or health," published in 1825, when Ballston Spa was the leading summer resort in the United States, gives the following interesting description:

"Ballston Springs—The clustering buildings of this great watering place are discovered unexpectedly in a little valley of sufficient depth to conceal them at a short distance. Mr. Booth's Female Academy is just south of the village. There are here three principal houses for the reception of visitors. The largest and most fashionable is Sans Souci; and the most comfortable are Aldridge's and Cory's. The price of board is ten dollars a week at the former place, and eight dollars at the two latter. Besides these there are several other boarding houses of inferior pretensions and prices; for great numbers of persons of all classes are annually attracted to this great watering place.

"Sans Souci is a building of an important size, occupying the corner where the village street meets the road to Saratoga. * * * Scarcely anything in this country can exceed the scene of gaiety which this house presents in the visiting season, as scarcely anything can communicate sensations of more complete desertion and loneliness before the company have arrived, or after they have retired. When crowded with people Sans Souci is usually the scene of several balls in the week, to say nothing of the fishing parties, riding parties, etc., etc., which fill up the day. The variety of scenery in the neighborhood is sufficient to attract many of those who resort to this place of health and pleas-

ure, and walking and riding will be found much more agreeable here than at Saratoga.

"Mr. Aldridge's House was the first respectable one ever opened in this place for the accommodation of visitors. A visitor of quiet habits or in ill health, will here find himself retired from the noise and bustle which enter so largely into the amusements of the more gay and robust. This house has a pleasant garden, with a long flight of steps leading to a commanding elevation which overlooks the village below. In speaking of this house and Cory's at once, we may remark that the tables are well furnished, the servants attentive, the rooms commodious, and the company no less genteel than at Sans Souci.

"The Old Spring, which is in the middle of the street opposite Aldridge's, was the first discovered in all this part of the country. It is said that the inhabitants were induced to trust to its peculiar virtues by the example of the deer of the forest, which had resorted to it in such numbers as to form beaten paths from every direction to the spot. The neighboring country was almost a perfect wilderness at the close of the Revolutionary war; for the natural military route between Canada and the United States lay through it, and the Five Nations of Indians were so near on the western side, and were frequently passing over it on their war parties that few white men were willing to encounter the dangers and risques to which such a residence must be exposed. * * * The old spring has fully regained its ancient reputation; and as the tide of company was turned last season from Saratoga back to Ballston, it is to be presumed that youth and age will crowd as heretofore around its brink, and pleasure as well as health will again be dispensed at its fountain.

"The Lover's Leap is a precipice of 60 or 70 feet, which overhangs the Kayaderosseras, and overlooks a romantic and secluded little valley, at the distance of about half a mile from the springs. The road leads up the hill beyond Aldridge's, and through a dark pine grove. A half trodden path turns off at the right and conducts to the precipice, which is a pleasant retreat in the heat of the day, affording a fine shade and frequently a pleasant breeze, as well as the view of a wild scene below, to which a steep descent conducts on the left hand. Many cheerful parties have visited this spot, many lonely and melancholy footsteps; it has drawn forth many enthusiastic remarks on the beauties of nature, and it is said some indifferent poetry.

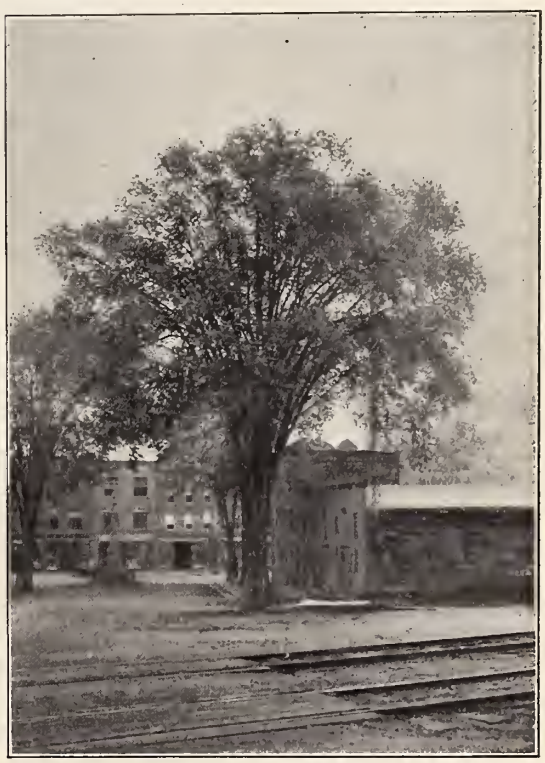
"There is a Reading Room and Circulating Library kept at the store of Mr. Comstock, and a book is also kept in which the names of visitors arriving at the principal houses are daily entered, for the information of others."

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE.

"The Tourist," a pocket manual for travelers, printed by Ludwig & Tolefree, New York, in 1831, says:

"Ballston Spa is the resort of hundreds of travellers during the summer months. There are a number of springs in the vicinity, the waters of which are not unlike those of Saratoga. A beautiful creek flows along the east end of the village, called the Kayaderosseras. This creek is a great resort for sportsmen, particularly those who delight to sit on the bank of a meandering brook, 'And from their depths delude the spotted fry.'

"Two of the springs are near Mr. Aldridge's Boarding House, and the U. S. spring is at the east end of the village, near the Sans Souci hotel. A large bathing house is located near this spring, which is furnished with waters (for the purpose of bathing) from all the different springs in the



Another Century Elm, Ballston Spa.

vicinity. There is in the village a Court-house, two churches, and a female seminary; also a printing office and bookstore, to which a reading room is attached.

"The principal hotels are the Sans Souci, kept by Mr. Loomis; this is the most extensive, and has more company than any other house. There is a large garden attached to it. Aldridge's Boarding House has a more retired location, and receives a good share of patronage. There is an extensive and beautiful garden connected with this establishment, which is always open to the guests. The Village Hotel, kept by Mr. Clark, is a few doors from the Sans Souci, and is a very agreeable boarding house. The Mansion House, in the centre of the village, is well kept by Mr. Kidd. Mrs. McMaster's private boarding house is near the west

spring on the flat. Those who wish a retired situation will be pleased with this house."

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE.

"The Tourist" was published by Harper & Brothers, New York, in 1839. It says:

"Since the completion of the railroads, nearly all travellers to Ballston and Saratoga go by way of Schenectady or Troy, where they proceed direct to the Springs by way of the Railroad. The Schenectady and Saratoga Railroad is 36½ miles long; the Rensselaer and Saratoga Road from Troy to Ballston, 20 miles long."

The description of the village given in "The Tourist" in 1831 is then repeated, and then occurs the following paragraph:

"Ballston Lake is six miles from the village, and a ride to its banks affords a very pleasant excursion. It is five miles long and one in width. Hunting and fishing abound on the borders and in the waters of the lake. If boats and other conveniences were provided for the accommodation of visitors, it would be a place of great resort, but at present very few think of going there. The usual drive is to Riley's, at Saratoga Lake. Ballston was formerly the most fashionable place of resort, but latterly Saratoga has borne away the palm. Not till newer and more convenient public houses are erected at this place will visitors give it their support. The public well, as it is called, was the gift of Sir William Johnson. Within the last year it has been repaired by the public authorities."

Within recent years the prediction as to Ballston Lake has been fulfilled. Numerous summer cottages have been built on the lake shore, and with the building of the Schenectady and Saratoga electric railway, "Forest Park," on the east shore and at the south end of the lake is rapidly becoming one of the most famous recreation parks in Northern New York.

AN OLD BOOK.

A rare old book of poetry, printed in 1806, is in the library of Senator Edgar T. Brackett, of Saratoga Springs. It is a literary curio, whose author is unknown. The title page reads:

BALLSTON SPRINGS.

"Dulce est Decipere in loco."

At Ballston to the fountain I repair,
Or hold sweet converse with the charming fair,
Or read a newspaper, or scribble rhyme,
Or sauntring stroll, and muse away my time.

New York:
Printed by S. Gould, opposite the City Hall.
1806.

We copy from this unique old book the following:

"INTRODUCTION."

"As the Ballston waters have afforded me much benefit in respect to my health, and occasioned the following effusions. I am induced to give them currency, that those with feebler bodies may avail themselves of the Springs, and that those with stronger minds may be inspired to produce real poetry for entertainment and instruction."

"ADDRESS TO THE SPRING."

"Let the drunkard's theme be wine,
Fount of Ballston thou art mine.
The bloated face, the pimpled nose,
The stiffened joints, the aching toes,
The sluggard blood, th' obstructed veins,
The falt'ring tongue, the muddled brains;
With th' unwieldy dropsied shape
Shew the triumph of the grape—
Ballston, health to thee I owe,
And my spirits genial glow.
Ballston, you my blood refin'd,
You made all things joy impart,
To my sympathizing heart—
Grateful indeed I ought to be,
You caus'd ('twas all in all to me)
My Emma's smile, my Emma's praise,
Too high a meed for trifling lays—"

"Having proposed a subscription from every person coming to Ballston Springs, for a public garden, the following was written to encourage it."

"Oh! think what pleasure nature's charms impart,
To draw from worldly cares the human heart,
What glowings flush with exercise the cheek,
What inward bliss the roseate tints bespeak.
The mother *there* with her boy repair,
T' inhale the fragrance of balsamic air.
What joy! beneath the shade to view her child,
Ply its elastic limbs in gambols wild:
She on its future prospects fondly bent,
He on his momentary sports intent.
The Statesman *there* may turn th' historic page,
And learn experience from each former age.
The poet *there* may court his Muse retir'd,
And tracing vivid scenes become inspired.
The lover *there* may wander in the grove,
Indulging all the doubts of timid love,
And stretched along the willow roots complain
Of slighted vows in many a weeping strain.
There noble youths and gentle nymphs may walk,
Delighting and instructing each with talk,
Or seated in some shady blest retreat,
Mingle with *sweet* discourse their glances sweet.
What bliss! to view the flowers, shrubs and trees,
And hear the murmuring rill and whispering breeze.
What harmony, when birds in song unite,
Fluttering, nestling, billing with delight,
All eyes, all hearts a garden must approve,
'Twas heaven's first gift to innocence and love."

"On seeing Miss * * * at the Ballston Springs."

"Fresh as the morn, when all the beauteous fair,
Around the spring in dishabille repair.
How charming to behold Eliza bend
And take the glass from some assiduous friend.
More pure, nor glass, nor water can appear,
Spotless without, within from blemish clear.
Envious I view the liquid which she sips
Between her pulpy, swelling, ruby lips.
Her little feet and nice turned ancles shew,
Peeping from muslin petticoat below,
Her attitude (like Venus who retires*)
The waving line of grace which taste admires,
To Fancy's eye my thoughts enraptured bring
Hygeia smiling at her favorite spring.
Trembling with strange sensations of delight,
She shakes my reason, and bedims my sight.
O'erpower'd, I feel constrained to bend the knee,
By every impulse of Idolatry."

"A supposed letter by a lady from Ballston."

"Having now quite recovered from pains in my bones;
From jolting o'er gullies, o'er stumps and o'er stones,
I'll fully detail how we pass away time,
And hoping to please you will scribble in rhyme.
At morn, about seven, we each show our skill,
In striking the beaux by a neat dishabille:
Then repair to the spring, and smilingly greet
With a curt'sy and compliment all whom we meet.
There Miss Polly Guzzle with boasting will drink
Twelve glasses at once, nor heeds what men think.

* * * * * *

When I hear her talk thus I go sauntering away
Apprehensive lest blushes my mind should betray.
At eight we to breakfast all scampering repair,
What devouring, what chatt'ring, what bustle is there!
Three persons to please us by turns, have combin'd,
And such a strange trio you rarely will find.
Now Mrs. Burke Hamilton acts and recites
And by voice most melodious each hearer delights.
Now the tumblers, stout Meriel and slight Parmalee,
Surprise by their strength and feats of agility.
Now Stewart with lectures profound on the mind,
Leaves Newton, and Bacon, and Locke far behind.
Thus amus'd, my dear friend, every hour of the day,
Our time unobserv'd hurries rapid away—
Of matches I've heard very little as yet,
Although for a lover each girl throws a net.
'Tis whispered, but truly I cannot believe it,
For though I have watched them I do not perceive it,
That the gay Mr. Smirk courts my pert couzin Jane,
And that she nothing loth, does not let him complain.
The man I detest, he's so full of grimace,
And at his own nonsense laughs in your face,
I'm told he possesses a noble estate,
And that with poor Jane is entitled to weight,
She is not, you know, overburthen'd with sense,
And as to good breeding she has no pretense,
Perhaps when she's married she then may excel,
Her temperament at school we both know too well.

Now I'll tell you a secret, but pray do not blame
If I speak of a Lover concealing his name.
There's a gentleman here I have in my eye,
Whom if he address'd me, I could not deny.
His person is form'd every woman to please,
Though less of Appollo than of Hercules,
He seems rather clumsy to some nice beholders,
So thick are his legs and so broad are his shoulders,
He's made like a Hero our sex to protect,
And to stature so manly I cannot object.
His accent is slightly affected with brogue,
But that amongst us is now all the vogue.
By his looks and expressions I fancy he's courting,
He cannot I hope be with tenderness sporting.
To all he's polite, but I clearly can see
That his *je ne scais quoi* is directed to me.
Sometimes I am jealous of Miss Tittle Tattle,
Who's body's a gig, and whose tongue is a rattle,
He laughs so with her, and seems so much pleas'd,
I can scarcely conceal how much I am teased.
But when quitting her he your humble addresses,
His smile and his air banish all my distresses,
Then he sentiment talks, and so plaintive appears,
My bosom beats quick and my eyes start with tears.
You know that "a sigh midst enjoyment will stray,
And a tear is the tribute which rapture must pay."
He surely must see all the transport I feel,
Which I'm not over-cautious in truth to conceal.

'Tother day being tempted abroad by the weather,
As we sat on a log talking softly together,
He took out his pencil and wrote me these lines.
As a poet he far every other outshines:

"Whilst other damsels ogling riggling,
Romp, nor know what they'd be at,
Whilst other girls with nonsense giggling,
Please vulgar souls with trifling chat—
Oh! may I with my Nymph retire,
And listen in a calm retreat,
To sentiments I must admire,
Cloth'd in words select and sweet."

The rest I suppress lest with cynical smile,
You should tell me 'tis flattery but to beguile,
In truth he so fully possesses my heart,
With my future and person I'd cheerfully part,
But fortune I'm sure he most nobly despises,
The soul of a woman is all that he prizes.

My next, will, I hope, something certain relate,
And determine, my friend, your Elizabeth's fate,
No longer I'm healthful, no longer I'm gay,
All who see me remark that I'm wasting away.
Uncertainty kills me—why won't he reveal
The pangs which he suffers and I wish to heal,
I'll write you the moment my fears have an end—
Whether married or single, believe me your friend."

"Elizabeth Tinder."

"*The statue of Venus de Medicis represents the Goddess bending forward modestly to conceal her charms."

Ballston in War

THE record of old Balls-Town in the War of the Revolution, and of the village of Ballston Spa in the War of 1812; the War with Mexico; the War of the Rebellion; and the recent War with Spain is a proud page of local history, filled with heroic deeds, and an intense patriotism that had its birth in "the spirit of '76."

WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

The story of Revolutionary times has been given elsewhere in this history. Of the men who fought for American Independence it has never been possible to give a complete list. In the account of the celebration of the semi-centennial of American Independence held in this village in 1826, it is stated that thirty-seven veterans of the Revolutionary War were in the procession. On the soldiers' monument in Low street may be seen the names of twenty Revolutionary soldiers. At the time the monument was dedicated these twenty were supposed to be all the men the sparsely settled Balls-Town District furnished in that protracted and heroic struggle.

From a volume published by the State in 1898, entitled "New York in the Revolution," we are enabled to give in this history, for the first time, the names of seventy-seven soldiers of the Revolution from the Balls-Town District. This volume has an interesting history. During the first term of Hon. James A. Roberts as Comptroller, he discovered in his office quantities of forgotten papers relating to the services performed by New York in the Revolutionary war. Realizing their value, competent men were set at work to sort out and arrange the papers. Up to this time the number of men credited to New York, and accepted as correct was 17,781. In these papers positive proof was found of the service of 43,645 men, an increase of 25,864, placing New York second only to Massachusetts in the number of men furnished. Besides this muster-roll, as the Comptroller terms it, twenty-nine large volumes relating to the Revolutionary war have been compiled and published from these "forgotten papers." Mr. Roberts also says: "Nor do the names contained in this volume in all probability comprise all of those from New York who performed service in that great struggle."

It is, however, undoubtedly the most complete record that will ever be made. The following are the names of the men from Ballstown:

Lt.-Col. James Gordon; Major Andrew Mitchell; Adjutant David Rumsey; Captains Beriah Palmer, Stephen White, Elisha Benedict and Tyrannis Collins; Lieutenants John Ball, Epenetus White, William McCrea, Thomas Brown, Francis Salisbury and Benjamin Wood; Ensign, Nathan Raymond. Soldiers of the Line and of the Militia—Stephen Ball, Flamen Ball, Elias Benedict, Felix Benedict, Caleb Benedict, Thomas Barnum, William Bettys, Joel Brown, Justus Blanchard, Samuel Clark, David Cory, Daniel Chase, John Davis, Nathan Evans, Joshua English, Jacob Fulmer, Stephen Fuller, Grixson Frisby, Sanbun Ford, Kenneth Gordon, John Higby, Lewis Higby, Albert Hansen, Abijah Hubbell, Jabez Hubbell, Josiah Hollister, Caleb Holmes, Edmund Jennings, Justus Jennings, John Kennedy, Thomas Kennedy, George Kennedy, Ephraim Ketchum, Michael McDonald, Samuel McCrea, Stephen Merrick, John McKnight, Michael Middlebrook, Joseph Morehouse, Azor Nash, John Nash, Samuel Nash, Jabez Patchin, Samuel Patchin, John Pierson, Jeremiah Pierson, Thomas Smith, Thaddeus Patchin, Thomas Salisbury, Philip Salisbury, Sunderland Sears, Nehemiah Seely, John Sprague, Elijah Sprague, Ebenezer Sprague, Jr., John Taylor, Edward A. Watrous, Lemuel Wilcox, Titus Watson, John Whitehead, Enoch Wood, Elijah Wood, Stephen Wood.

WAR OF 1812.

In 1812 the declaration of war against Great Britain again aroused an intense spirit of patriotism, and among the loyal sons of Ballston who responded to the call of their country were the following:

Captain Reuben Westcot, Capt. Isaac Curtis, Joel Lee, Elijah Armstrong, Nathaniel Burnham, Jonathan S. Beach, Timothy Bailey, Chester Clapp, William Collamer, Thomas Collamer, Alpheus Goodrich, Azariah W. Odell, Abner S. Irish, M. Holden, A. C. Harlow, William Chapman, Henry P. Chapman, E. Dunning, Sanbun Ford, William H. Ford, Amasa Ford, Simeon Ford, John Luther, G. Morehouse, J. Morse, G. Pratt, Stephen S. Seaman, G. Quackenbush, Alva Robertson, John Story, L. Smith, W. J. Stilwell, Cornelius Schermerhorn, E. Taylor, D. Weed, S. Taylor, Freeman Thomas, John Wheeler, Silas Smith, Lewis Miller, S. Curtis, William Evans.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

War was declared with Mexico in 1846, and in the Ballston Journal of April 27, 1847, we find an account of the departure of Ballston boys for the scene of war. The Journal said:

"HONOR TO THE BRAVE."

"On Saturday last the following young men, viz: Albert Barnes, Henry Ford, Seneca Shepard, Philander Millard, Wm. H. Thompson, Andrew Armstrong, Wilber Palmer, Hiram Smith, James Porter, Wm. H. McKittrick and Nicholas Armstrong, left our village for the seat of war in Mexico. We can say with truth that a braver set of young men are not to be found, and should they be called to meet the foe there will be no flinching on their part, but all will give a good account of themselves. In such hands we are perfectly willing to trust the reputation of Old Saratoga for bravery and prowess in arms."

Other volunteers in this war were James Schermerhorn, Ransom B. Pettit, Alvin Luther, Oliver Whitehead, Scott Armstrong, E. M. Christie, T. C. Henry, S. Irish, William Jarvis, John M. Story, H. Van De Bogart, F. Miller, Edward Gray and Ransom Peckham.

William H. Thompson writing home from New York told of their first engagement: "Already we have stood the charge against overwhelming numbers of Albany rowdies, who attacked us, while peacefully marching through the streets, with clubs, slung shots and brick-bats, and I assure you some of them paid dearly for waking up the ire of 'Old Saratoga.'"

Four of Ballston's sons were killed in battle. They were James Schermerhorn, Ransom B. Pettit, Alvin Luther and Hiram Smith. A monument to their memory stands in the village cemetery.

Of the return of some of the veterans, the Ballston Journal of August 22, 1848, said:

"SAFE RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS."

"The 'Ballston Boys,' who went from this village and vicinity to fight the battles of their country, have just returned from Mexico. Their arrival created quite a sensation, and immediately the 'old trophy gun' was brought out, which soon made the welkin ring in honor of their safe arrival. The names of the volunteers who have returned are McKittrick, Shepard, N. and A. Armstrong, H. Ford, W. Palmer and J. Porter."

A complimentary supper was given the returned soldiers at the Village Hotel August 19th. One hundred and thirty were present. Judge George G. Scott presided. There were twelve regular toasts, and twenty-three volunteer toasts.

THE CIVIL WAR.

The election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency of the United States in November, 1860; the talk of the secession of the Southern States which immediately followed, and the general unwillingness on the part of the North to believe that the South would appeal to the dread arbitrament of civil war because of defeat in the presidential contest, are facts well within the memory of the writer, at that time a boy of fourteen. It is not our purpose to enter into a discussion of the causes which led up to the war, but rather to tell the story of the stirring days of '61 to '65 in the village of Ballston Spa.

When the news of the firing on Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, on April 12, 1861, reached Ballston, the excitement occasioned by the opening of hostilities rose to fever heat, and the fires of patriotism which had been smouldering for months burst forth in a flame of wrath and indignation which can only be fully appreciated by those who participated in the scenes which were enacted.

The Journal said:

"The firing upon Fort Sumter was a surprise upon the country, followed by the sweeping of a wild excitement over the Free States, equal to that caused by the battle of Lexington. Slavery has drawn its glittering steel and bathed it in fraternal blood. That blood is the signal of Freedom's victory. That blood will cry out for retribution. That blood will blot out party distinctions, sufficiently, at least, at the North, to unite us in a common bond for the preservation of our Government, our Nationality, and our Free Institutions. It has united our people in one common sentiment of love for the Union, and rallied them to the single purpose of preserving it at all hazards. The loss of Sumter is our greatest gain."

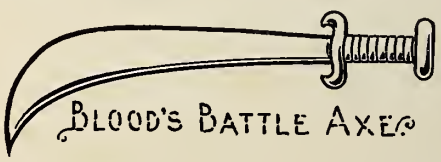
While the bravery of Major Anderson and his heroic little band was on every lip, it was not known at the time, nor, indeed, until long afterward, that the hand which fired the first shot from Fort Sumter in defiance of the traitorous southern crew who, from Fort Moultrie had assaulted "Old Glory," was the hand of Lieutenant Abner S. Doubleday, of the United States Army, and a native of Ballston Spa. Before the close of the war he attained the high rank of Brevet-Major General, U. S. A. Gen. Doubleday was a son of Ulysses F. Doubleday, editor of one of the village papers from 1816 to 1823.

A spirit of intense loyalty was everywhere manifest in the village, but there were a number, and among them some prominent citizens, who sympathized with the South. These men had been enthusiastic supporters of Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency, but they did not follow the noble Douglas, who said, in his outspoken support of the National Government, "I deprecate war, but if it must come I am with my country, and for my country under all circumstances and in every contingency. Individual policy must be subordinate to the public safety." These "secessionists," with many others all over the North, who espoused the Southern cause, came to be known as "copperheads." They were strong in expressing their belief that the South would win in the terrible conflict; that the war was provoked by the North, and that the South should be allowed to go in peace, and the war be brought to a close.

It was this kind of talk, in which a few newspapers joined, that led Horace Greeley, in his New York Tribune, to make his famous assertion, "I will not say that all Democrats are traitors, but I will say that all traitors are Democrats." The truth of this nice distinction made by the great editor was abundantly proven when the call came for seventy-five thousand volunteers, for Democrat and Republican alike nobly responded, and stood shoulder to shoulder for the defense of the Union, and nobody knew, or cared to inquire, whether one or the other of the great political parties had the larger number among the volunteers.

On the evening of April 23, 1861, a large and enthusiastic meeting was held in Waverly Hall, to take measures for enlisting a company of volunteers. Hon. James M. Cook presided, and patriotic speeches were made by Seymour Chase, C. C. Hill, James W. Horton, and the venerable Dr. Babcock. A committee of fifteen was appointed to have charge of the enlisting of volunteers. The following gentlemen were the committee: C. C. Hill, Robert Speir, Samuel Rue, Henry Knickerbacker, Seymour Chase, S. H. Drake, N. P. Hammond, Adam Wilbur, Chauncey Kilmer, Charles D. Seely, William Warner, Nathaniel Mann, Reuben Westcot, H. L. Grose, E. W. Reynolds.

Hon. Isaiah Blood, Hon. George G. Scott, Samuel H. Cook, William T. Odell and James W. Horton were appointed a committee to raise money for the support of the families of volunteers. Amid much enthusiasm, with the band playing Yankee Doodle, the meeting adjourned. Within three days $1,500 was subscribed, and men were enlisting for service in the Union Army.



In the issue of the Journal containing an account of this meeting the "Town Rambler" in his weekly summary of local events, said: "I am gratified to see that nearly all our citizens, without regard to party, denounce the recent acts of the Southern traitors. One of our leading politicians has met with a conversion as sudden as that of Saul of Tarsus. Our citizens are waking up to a healthy excitement." The politician referred to was Hon. Isaiah Blood. He was State Senator at this time, and was appointed by Governor Morgan on the War Committee for Saratoga county. April 20 Mr. Blood received an order for a large number of "battle axes" for a Massachusetts company of flying artillery. The axes were made and delivered in ten days. They were two feet in length, of the finest steel his shops could produce, and were intended, not only to clear the way for the artillery through the forests, but for use in battle as well, and were more terrible as implements of war than the broadsword of feudal days. Some time before the firing on Fort Sumter Mr. Blood received an order for

similar weapons from New Orleans, but refused to furnish them. He could not be seduced from the lofty patriotic stand he had taken.

Gen. Cook on hearing that the Albany Burgesses Corps had tendered their services to Governor Morgan, wrote to his son, James Cady Cook, in Albany, this letter:

"Ballston Spa, April 22, 1861.

"Dear Son—I see by the Troy papers received here this afternoon, that the 'Burgesses' have tendered their services to the Governor. If this is so you must not fail to go with them. This is hard advice for a father to give an only son, and the more so when the situation of your own family is considered. It would be a burning disgrace to you if you failed in duty now, such as you could never recover from during your whole life, and would stigmatize the whole family. You are too young a man to start wrong in life, and although you have everything to keep you at home, it will not do at this time to stand back, if the Company of which you are a member has volunteered. Whilst I regret the necessity (if it exists,) it is one of those responsibilities that must be met at all hazards. The war feeling is so strong here that it is dangerous to personal safety to preach treason.

"Yours affectionately,

"JAS. M. COOK."

The Journal commenting, said, "this is the kind of talk for the times, and is just what might be expected from the known character of the man. Do the Southern chivalry hope to subdue the sons of such sires? We know they are brave as any men need be, but they can never conquer men who are equally as brave, and five to one. Never! never!"

In striking contrast to the letter of Mr. Cook, the Journal, a few weeks later, said: "The following correspondence recently passed between a gentleman and his son, who left college to fight for his country:

'B., Jr.—If you enlist, I disinherit you. B., Sr.'

'B., Sr.—Without a country, I want no inheritance. I have enlisted. B., Jr.'"

April 29 a splendid liberty pole, one hundred and thirty feet in height was raised in front of the Armory, in the presence of thousands, and "old glory" proudly waved from its top. An incident in connection with this event is given further on in this chapter. The stars and stripes floated from a high pole in front of the Cook mills on the Island; the cotton factory of J. A. Hovey, and the knitting mill of Hiro Jones were covered with flags, and from the poles on the court house and the armory the national ensign was flung to the breeze.

THE FIRST VOLUNTEERS.

The first Ballston boys to enlist were George M. Hoyt, Robert Birch Kelly and John Emperor. The call for volunteers was made April 15, and two days later, April 17, Hoyt, Kelly and Emperor enlisted in Company I, 18th Regiment, N. Y. Vols., recruited in Albany.

Chauncey B. Irish, then living in Worcester, Mass., enlisted about the same time, in Holt's Rifle Corps. Just before starting for Washington his friends presented him with a bowie knife and revolver costing twenty dollars. On being mustered in the inspecting officer pronounced him to be the hardiest and strongest man in the batallion.

"Will" Horton and John Harlow were the next to enroll, joining the 44th Regiment, enlisted almost entirely from the city of Albany. This regiment was known as the "Ellsworth Avengers."

Harlow and Irish were young men of gigantic strength, and as courageous as they were strong. When the boys of the village first heard of the remark of a Southern fire-eater, that "one Southerner was as good as five Yankee 'mudsills,' we eagerly discussed as to what would happen if that 'fire-eater' should tackle either Harlow or Irish. We were quite sure his opinion would be surprisingly modified, in fact, that it would be entirely reversed, for we *knew* that in all the Southland the physical prowess of these Ballston boys could not be equalled, and that one Yankee was as good as five Southerners any time and anywhere. Before the war was over, even our village boys conceded, somewhat reluctantly we admit, that the Southern troops were equally brave as those of the North; but we softened the verdict by saying, "Well, we are all of one blood, anyhow!"

In the latter part of May, John Thompson arrived at home from Memphis, Tennessee. He said, "I was impressed into the rebel army, but not relishing the idea of fighting against the Union, I took 'French leave' one night, of the minions of Jeff. Davis, and fled for my old home."

A VERMONT CAPTAIN.

It was not an uncommon thing at this time for trains to pass through the village carrying troops from the northern counties and from Vermont to the front. Great crowds would gather at the railroad station to greet them and cheer them on their way. One day a long train, drawn by two locomotives, and having aboard an entire Vermont regiment, halted for some time at Ballston, while some repairs were being made to one of the engines. Many of the brawny Vermonters alighted from the cars, and marched up and down the station yard. And magnificent looking men they were. Some of our boys who had recently enlisted said to a group of the Vermont recruits, "we'll see you in Washington." This incident was recalled to the writer forty years later, in the little mining town of Atlanta, in the mountains of Idaho. Seated at dinner by the side of a stalwart miner, I noticed that he wore the small "bronze button" of the G. A. R. Thinking I might hear some reminiscence of the "days of '61," I said to him: "Did you serve with the Western troops in the war?" He replied, "No! I was from Vermont—what regiment were you in?" Saying that I could not claim the honor of having served in the Union army, I remarked that my home was in Saratoga county, New York. "Saratoga, did you say?" he quickly replied; "do you know Col. French." Replying that the Colonel was one of my friends, my hand was seized with a grip which proved that the good right arm of the Vermont soldier had lost none of its vigor. He said: "I'm glad to know you! my Regiment and the 77th New York were in the same brigade. No braver officer ever belted on a sword than Col. French. And say! that 77th could fight. They didn't know what the word "retreat" meant, and there wasn't a Regiment in either army, North or South, that could whip them, unless (and a twinkle came into his eyes) it was ours." Saying, in response to an inquiry, that my home was at Ballston Spa, seven miles south of Saratoga, the veteran said: "I know the place; when we were going to the front that was the only place our train stopped between Rutland and Albany. I remember some of your boys said they would see us in Washington. I don't know whether they did or not, or whether they were in the 77th or some other Regiment, but if your town had any boys in that fighting crowd, you ought to be proud of them." I told him that Company B was from Ballston. "Well, well," he said, "I am glad to see you; it brings back old army days. Tell Col. French when you get home, that Capt. ———— of the ——th Vermont, sends his very best regards. He'll remember me." Shaking hands, we parted, and with a long, swinging step, the old veteran started up the mountain trail. At a little distance he turned and shouted back: "Don't forget my name and regiment, and give my love to the Colonel!" After the lapse of several years the name and regiment of the Vermonter has passed from our memory, but the incident will never be forgotten. The message was delivered to Gen. French a month later and he said: "You don't tell me! Remember Capt. ————; well, I guess I do! He was a brave soldier, in a brave Regiment. With the —th Vermont and the old 77th, (God bless them!) behind me, we could whip our weight in wild cats!" and the General's eyes gleamed with the old "battle-fire" as he spoke.

COMPROMISE AND PEACE.

In the month of July, 1861, handbills were posted in the village which read: "Peace, Compromise and Union! All who are in favor of peace, compromise and union, and opposed to a large standing army. All opposed to a large national debt, are requested to meet at the Court House in Ballston Spa on Saturday, July 27, at 3 p. m." About one hundred citizens attended the meeting, a large majority of whom were not in sympathy with its purpose. John Wait presided, and John Brotherson was the first speaker. He spoke at considerable length, the keynote of his speech finding expression in these words: "It is the agitation of the slave question which has brought the present trouble on our country. Those who favor the war are disunionists. War is in effect disunion. How can this be averted? By compromise. Compromise is peace, and peace, on any honorable terms, is preferable to war, which must end in permanent disunion."

C. C. Hill, a prominent lawyer, and an eloquent speaker, was then called out by the

Chairman. Mr. Hill was chairman of the committee on enlistment of volunteers, and it had been rumored that he was not taking any active part in the work, and had been heard to say that he was in favor of a peaceful compromise, and in sympathy with the objects of the meeting. But if any one had believed these rumors, they were quickly undeceived. Mr. Hill made a fiery speech, creating the wildest enthusiasm, and turning the meeting into a rousing endorsement of the Union cause. After denying, in most emphatic language, the rumors with regard to himself, Mr. Hill continuing, said: "I feel called upon to repudiate and denounce such meetings as this. Mr. Brotherson has gravely inquired, what has produced this war. I will tell him. This war is to be traced to the very scoundrels who now have arms in their hands." Upon the question of compromise, Mr. Hill said: "There is only one I would make. I would be willing to say to Jefferson Davis and his whole traitorous crew, lay down your arms and return to your allegiance, and your miserable lives, which you have justly forfeited to the laws of your country, shall be spared."

The speech, and a resolution which Mr. Hill offered at its conclusion, did not please the gentlemen who had signed the call for the meeting, and one of them, evidently disgusted with the complexion which matters were assuming, said in a complaining manner, "Those who called the meeting ought to have the privilege of conducting its business, I doubt the right of Mr. Hill to submit the resolution he has offered." Another said: "I think Mr. Hill's speech too much in keeping with the spirit that now carries on the war. We all want the war ended. The nigger is at the bottom of it. I wish to ask Mr. Hill if he thinks the slaves can be liberated without destroying the Union? No one believes that every slave can be freed and the Union be preserved."

Mr. Hill replied—"I say they can. I say it is a slander on the Government to say that this war is for the liberation of the slaves. But if in the war to put down the rebellion, slavery should necessarily be abolished, as a legitimate result of the war, I shall not shed many tears over it. I repeat, better that every slave should be run off than that the Government be broken up. Has slavery done more for the world than American liberty? Are not the laws of the Free States better than the Black Code of the South? Why is it that gentlemen here have so much to say about wrongs done to the South, and nothing to say of the wrongs done by the South?" The meeting broke up with cheers for the Union, President Lincoln and the Union army.

A correspondent writing to the Journal August 5, said:

"It seems that we have in our midst sympathizers with the South. There are men among them of high standing, heretofore; men formerly having influence, and who may even now, by their traitorous harangues, turn the minds of some of our loyal citizens. How much longer will this be permitted? Shall we permit a few rebels to arise in our midst and aid in destroying this glorious fabric built up by the blood of our fathers? By no means. Let some course be taken to break up 'peace meetings,' and treat everyone who attends to express his sympathy for our country's enemies, in a manner which shall insure a perfect dislodgment."

Another wrote: "Here in our midst, and scattered through all the towns and villages of the North, are men whose sympathies are enlisted in the cause of Southern treason, and whose influence, so far as it goes, is all thrown against the Government and the flag."

While the North was smarting under the disaster and defeat at the first battle of Bull Run, in the month of July, Hon. James B. McKean, then our Representative in Congress, issued from his home in Saratoga Springs, a call for volunteers, in which he said: "Let us organize a Bemis Heights Battalion, and vie with each other in serving our country, thus showing we are inspired by the holy memories of the Revolutionary battle-fields upon and near which we are living."

COMPANY B, 77TH REGIMENT.

This call met with immediate response from all parts of the county. A meeting was held at the Armory in this village to complete the organization of the Ballston Company. Stephen Horton was called on to speak. He said: "I cannot make a speech. We are engaged in a glorious cause. I address you as soldiers, for I have enlisted with you. We go to the battle field, and there are no hardships falling to a soldier's lot that we are not willing to share. We go as the defenders of our country and our flag—not to

subjugate a people, but to preserve our country, and the blessings and privileges bought by the blood of our patriot ancestors. We follow the flag first unfurled on our soil, and for our country we will live, for our country we will die. My life is my country's, and here I pledge it on the altar of my country."

C. C. Hill took the opportunity to correct the report that he did not intend to go with the Company, saying: "I tell you I am going with this Company in any capacity assigned me. Its fortunes shall be my fortunes; its defeat my defeat; its triumph my triumph. I have no promise of office, and shall have none unless chosen by this Company. Capt. Hammond authorizes me to say the same for him."

At this meeting the total number enrolled was fifty-four.

A week later, on the evening of September 23, a meeting was held in Waverly Hall. The hall was crowded. L. Murray Crane presided, and in opening the meeting said: "It is well known that our Company is to start for the drill camp at Saratoga to-morrow. The object of this meeting is to bid them farewell, and to raise funds to provide for their families."

Gen. Cook said: "I am proud to see that old Ballston is to take the field, and that the honor of Ballston is safe in your keeping. We shall make arrangements for the proper care of your families, and I call upon Mr. Horton to render a report of the committee on finance." Mr. Horton reported that the fund was $2,450, from which $20 a week has been paid, leaving the fund now about $2,000. Mr. Cook made a proposition as an individual to pay four dollars to each family of a volunteer who was mustered into service.

Judge Scott was called for and responded as follows: "I came to hear others, not to make a speech. This is an occasion that occurs but seldom. A few years ago several of our citizens went to the Mexican war. They returned and their reception was honorable. You go forth, not against a foreign foe, but to put down a domestic enemy. You go against a most gigantic rebellion warring upon the most beneficent Government in the world. You go forth, I trust, not to a long war. I hope it will soon be ended. I trust the day is not far distant when this rebellion will be crushed—when the deluded men of the South will return to their allegiance, and you will come back to us crowned with honor."

C. C. Hill said: "I shall make no speech. Ten days ago we commenced our Company, and to-night we have eighty men enrolled, a result equal to anything accomplished in the cities. Notwithstanding our unparalleled success, it has not been without opposition. Insidious and disgraceful opposition has endeavored to thwart our enterprise. It has been said that you are not bound to go. To settle this I read the enlistment roll. It is not a promise to enlist, but an actual enlistment."

A few days later the Company numbered over ninety men. C. C. Hill was elected Captain; N. P. Hammond, first lieutenant; Stephen S. Horton, second lieutenant.

Company B was the rank given the Ballston company in the regiment. At "Camp Schuyler," the name given the drill camp, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, That in consideration of the patriotic and efficient aid rendered by Gen. James M. Cook in the formation of this Company, and of the munificent provision made by him for the support of the families of its members, and as a mark of respect for him personally, we hereby adopt as the name of this Company, the 'James M. Cook National Guard'."

Governor Morgan designated the Bemis Heights Battalion the "77th Regiment," in commemoration of the year in which the battle of Bemis Heights was fought.

The Bemis Heights Battalion, Col. James B. McKean, commanding, left Saratoga for Washington on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28. The train did not stop at Ballston, where a great crowd had assembled to say good-bye to Company B. The Company and Regiment, however, had a rousing reception and farewell as the train passed the station, from the cheering crowd, the firing of cannon, the ringing of bells, and the tooting of whistles.

Rev. David Tully, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, was appointed Chaplain of the Regiment, and preached his farewell sermon on Sunday evening, December 1st, to a congregation that filled the church to overflowing. In closing his sermon, Mr. Tully said, "I expect to return in June next, by which time I think the rebellion will be put down." Many others believed that the war would be

of brief duration, but they were sadly mistaken.

Miletus S. Taft, a member of the Ballston Cornet Band, organized the Regimental Band of the 77th Regiment, and was its leader. Atwood Wilber, Collins Foster and Luther Irish were also members of the Ballston Band who joined the Regimental band.

Capt. Hill and Lieut. Hammond resigned on account of continued ill health in July, 1862, and Lieut. Horton was promoted to

Captain Stephen S. Horton.

the Captaincy, and became the idol of his company. He never asked his men to go where he was not ready to lead. In the battle of Fredericksburgh, while leading his Company in a desperate charge, he came near losing his life. He was stunned by the bursting of a shell, and carried to the rear, supposed to be mortally wounded.

At this time Col. McKean was ill at his home in Saratoga, and Lt.-Col. French, (afterward Gen. French,) was in command of the 77th. Writing of this battle to Col. McKean, he gave this glowing description of the charge:

"We charged up the heights and Capt. Wheeler fell while urging on his men. (Wheeler was captain of the Saratoga Company, C.) We took one stand of colors from the 18th Mississippi, and nearly one hundred men, a Lieutenant-Colonel and a Captain. The 33rd New York followed on the right, and of course did their work well. On the left I had no support, so I rallied the men on the colors, and charged up the hill alone. Oh, how nobly the boys moved up. I rushed on with them and captured two brass cannon, a pair of horses, caissons, etc., and about twenty prisoners. Gen. Howe rode up while I had my foot on the cannon and said: 'Noble boys—the 77th has covered itself with glory'."

Under date of April 10, 1863, Captain Horton wrote his father, James W. Horton:

"My Company is getting on quite well. I feel proud of old Company B. Their ranks are thinned, and many of the old faces are not seen, but what are left are of the right sort. They have just come in from inspection by the Brigade Inspector, and he told me that our equipments were in as good order as any Company he ever inspected—in fact, old Company B can't be beat."

Captain Horton was twice severely wounded in battle, the last time at the battle of Antietam. May 23, 1863, he was honorably discharged, with high commendation for bravery in the field, his wounds incapacitating him for further service.

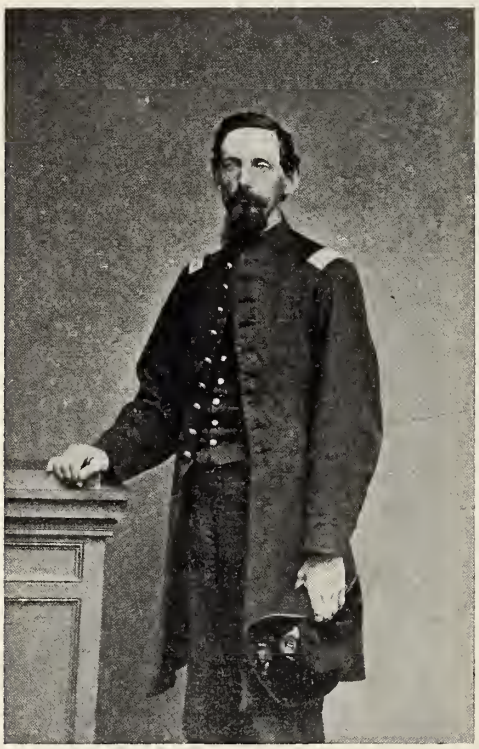
The three years' term of enlistment having expired, the 77th returned to Saratoga in November, 1864, and on December 13 was mustered out of service. Ten men of Company B were mustered out at this time. The other members, some forty in number, with many others who enlisted in 1861, re-enlisted, and with the recruits added to the Regiment in 1862, and subsequently, were organized into the 77th Veteran Battalion, under the command of Captain David J. Caw. The Battalion was assigned to the place vacated by the old 77th, and remained in the service until the close of the war. The war over the Battalion was mustered out June 27, 1865. Company B took part in fifty-three skirmishes, engagements and battles.

COMPANY C, 115TH REGIMENT.

Hon. George S. Batcheller, on July 29, 1862, was commissioned Captain of Volunteers, and authorized to enlist a Company of volunteers, to be attached to the 115th New York, then being recruited in the counties of Montgomery, Fulton, Hamilton and Saratoga, form

ing the Fifteenth Senate District. Mr. Batcheller was a son-in-law of James M. Cook, and resided in Ballston Spa. He at once opened a recruiting station in the village, and on August 12, fourteen days from the time he received his commission his company was more than full, one hundred and twenty-five men having enrolled.

Gen. Cook proposed that the citizens of Ballston Spa make a subscription for the purpose of paying ten dollars to each volunteer in Captain Batcheller's company, and started the list with $250. Isaiah Blood and Samuel H. Cook each gave $200, and the amount required was quickly raised by subscriptions ranging from $50 to $10, the sum of $1,300 being contributed.



Captain William H. McKittrick.

Ten days later Capt. Batcheller was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment, and William H. McKittrick, a veteran of the Mexican war was commissioned Captain of Company C. Capt. McKittrick was killed in battle before Richmond in 1864. His body was never recovered, and he lies in an unknown soldier's grave. McKittrick Post is named in honor of his memory.

Col. Batcheller resigned in November, 1863, and was succeeded as Lt-Colonel by Nathan J. Johnson, a former resident of Ballston Spa. Johnson acted as Colonel of the regiment from April, 1865, to the close of the war, receiving his commission as Colonel on the day the regiment was mustered out of service. Col. Johnson again became a resident of this village, where he died.

Gen. Batcheller was born in Batchellerville, and soon after reaching his twenty-first year was elected Member of Assembly from the Second District. After his resignation from the army he was made Inspector-General of the State of New York, and later was appointed to represent the United States as Judge in the International Court at Cairo, Egypt. He served again in the Assembly in the years 1866, 1869, 1873 and 1874. He has been United States Minister to Portugal. Assistant Treasurer of the United States, and is now serving for a second term as Judge of the International Court at Cairo.

Company C of the 115th Regiment, was recruited in Ballston Spa, and the immediate vicinity, and many of the survivors of the Company are still residents of the village. About twenty-five members of Co. I were also from this village and vicinity. The Regiment took part in ten battles: Maryland Heights, Olustee, Drewry's Bluff, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom, Chapin's Farm, Darbytown Road, Fort Fisher and Wilmington. And also in twenty-one skirmishes and engagements of more or less importance.

Other regiments in which men were enlisted from this village were the 44th New York Infantry, the 4th and 13th Heavy Artillery and the 2nd Cavalry.

DISASTER.

After the disastrous campaign early in 1863, the following appeared in the Journal:

"In Despair.—The Ballston Atlas, in an article headed 'Disaster to our arms,' says: 'Pen stops as the dismal future looms up horrid and desperate, and Faith and Hope are no longer with us.' Possibly the Atlas for once feels bad over the Union reverses. Probably it feels bad. On the whole we think it now certainly feels bad. It is without Faith and Hope, which is a sad condition. Its pen stops, which will be no loss to the public. If it

would only stay stopped the world would turn round as usual."

The Journal of February 11, 1862, gave the following samples of "war poetry:"

"REPUDIATION."

'Neath a ragged palmetto a Southerner sat,
A-twirling the band of his panama hat,
And trying to lighten his mind of a load
By humming the words of the following ode:
'Oh! for a nigger and oh for a whip!
Oh! for a cocktail! and oh! for a nip!
Oh! for a shot at old Greeley and Beecher!
Oh! for a crack at a Yankee school teacher!
Oh! for a captain! and oh! for a ship!
Oh! for a cargo of niggers each trip!
And so he kept oh-ing for all he had not,
Not contented with owing for all that he'd got'."

"A CONTRABAND REFRAIN."

"Now much in vogue at Fortress Monroe."

"Wake up snakes, pelicans, and Sesh-ners!
Don't yer hear 'um comin'—
Comin' on de run?
Wake up I tell yer! Git up Jefferson!
Bobolishion's comin'—
Bob-o-lish-ion."

VICTORY.

The news of the surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, and the Union victory at Gettysburg reached Ballston the same day. What took place is described in the Journal:

"Last Tuesday night we had a time of general rejoicing in Ballston over the fall of Vicksburg and the glorious victory at Gettysburg. The 'old trophy gun' of Burgoyne days roared as loud as 'old Tom' could make it roar; fife and drum whistled and rattled as if calling out the militia to meet an advancing enemy; all the bells rang out their joyful peals, illuminations, bon-fires, fire crackers, and various other inventions demonstrated the popular exultation. Ballston can jubilate when it has a mind to, equal to any other place of its size, and it had a mind to last Tuesday night."

The "old Tom" referred to was Thomas Mainhood, who had just returned, after two years' service in Company B.

This item appeared in the Journal of November 8, 1864:

"A few days ago the death of James Garrett at Hampden Hospital was announced in the Albany Argus. In front of one of our stores a group were discussing the possibilities of its being the son of Anson B. Garrett, when a 'peace Democrat,' supposing it must be Garrett's son, said: 'Serves him right, d—n him. They are all in for this d—d abolition war.' Similar expressions in reference to our soldiers have been used by prominent 'copperheads' in this village again and again within the last two years."

The soldier alluded to was James S. Garrett, son of Anson B. Garrett. He was severely wounded, but recovered, and is now living in Glens Falls.

An incident of more pleasing character and quite the opposite in spirit, occurred a few days later. The ladies of the village proposed to send a Thanksgiving dinner to Company B. Three boxes stuffed with turkeys, chicken, roasted pork, spare-rib, mince pies, fried cakes, higdom, catsup, doughnuts, apples, cheese, preserved fruits, and other delicacies were sent by express to the brave boys at the front, the express company transporting the dinner free of charge. One of the boys writing home, said:

"Never did a Thanksgiving dinner taste so good. How the boys enjoyed it. There was enough and to spare. The turkey was fine, and the mince pies. —my, but they were good. When we were almost too full for utterance, three cheers were proposed for the Ballston ladies, and they were given with a will and a tiger."

THE DRAFT RIOTS.

There was a demand for more troops early in 1863, and volunteer enlistments at this time being made slowly, the government ordered a draft in all the loyal States, to raise the required number of men. The "copperheads" everywhere violently opposed the measure, and so stirred up the unruly element in the cities, that the terrible draft riots of July, 1863, in New York city and elsewhere, resulted. In New York the Tribune and Herald offices were sacked, and hundreds of people, largely among the colored inhabitants, were killed by the savage mob. In Troy there was serious rioting, and the office of the Troy Times was gutted. In its issue of July 21, the Journal said:

"The last week was one of unusual excitement in our ordinarily quiet village. Groups of men, conversing in low tones, might be seen at almost every corner, and in some instances there were utterances too disgraceful to be repeated. In other instances threats were made which might well shame a highwayman or a pirate. Nobody was scared except a few women and children. In our humble opinion, the vaunted right of free speech was abused in a most outrageous manner, and we hope never again to hear of such malignant expressions as were let loose upon an errand of mischief in this

community. If harmless by reason of their source, they would become unpleasant by repetition. This is not the time for intemperate and inconsiderate language, when the public mind is fevered over the most fiendish and barbarous riot that has ever disgraced our country."

In emulation of the dastardly deeds committed in New York, several Ballston toughs one morning attacked three Ballston negroes on Bath street, in front of the engine house. Frank Anthony, Gus Nelson and Frank Jackson were more than a match for the white ruffians, who, finding themselves worsted in the encounter, began to throw stones, and one of them drew a knife. At this juncture David Maxwell, a justice of the peace, and David R. Harlow and "Elder" Dye, constables, appeared on the scene. Harlow and Maxwell were powerful men, and each seized two of the miscreants, and shaking them much as a dog would shake a rat, started for the office of the justice, over the store of S. Gould, Jr. Dye followed with another prisoner. Up the stairs Maxwell and Harlow dragged their men, in no gentle manner, and the crowd followed. Our duty as a faithful chronicler of events compelled us to mingle in the crowd. Justice Maxwell commenced to write, when a prominent citizen spoke: "Squire," he said, "I'll go bail for these men!" "What's that!" thundered Maxwell, "bail did you say. These scoundrels are going to jail, and anyone who offers bail will go to jail with them. We'll have no draft rioting in this town." Nothing further was said about bail, and five miserable rowdies had ten days "on the hill" to reflect on the speedy justice meted out in Squire Maxwell's Court. The other miscreants escaped.

Copperheadism vented itself in loud denunciations against carrying into effect the draft law, and high words drew the line sharply between the "war Democrats" and the "peace Democrats." From that time on there raged in Ballston Spa a heavy battle of words. The Journal had made itself particularly obnoxious by its unsparing condemnation of Kukluxism and treason, and its office was marked for destruction by the Troy Kluklux Klan, an oath-bound organization whose existence had been kept secret until the destruction by them of the office of the Troy Times. The captain had a map of the village, and the residences of Republicans were marked for burning or destruction in some form. Their villainous plans became known, and Captain Horton at once organized a company of furloughed and returned soldiers, together with the Home Guard. They were armed, and ready to defend any point that might be attacked. On a certain afternoon early in September the Troy band of ruffians started for Ballston. A little after eight o'clock in the evening the rioters came into the village and gathered at the corner of Front and Bath streets. They began to make loud threats against the Black Republicans, and the leader of the marauders shouted, "To the Journal office first." Mr. Grose, editor of the Journal, who was present, shouted back, "You miserable cowards and villains, go right on; you will find the doors of the Journal office open; you can go in, but how many will be able to come out alive I can't tell." Some of them said "he must have an infernal machine up there." He said, "You may get out quicker than you get in. I warn you to get out of town quietly before ten o'clock." Captain Horton's company then drew up, the drums rattled, pistols were fired, and the rioters took to their heels. The soldiers patrolled the streets, and before ten o'clock perfect quiet reigned. This occurrence gave warning of what might happen. Thereafter, incendiary speeches were rarely heard, and no further disturbance took place.

LAST DAYS OF THE WAR.

Of the scenes witnessed in Ballston Spa during the closing days of the war in 1865; of the supreme joy everywhere manifested over the fall of Richmond; a joy which a week later was suddenly changed into the deepest gloom and sorrow, we can give no better account than to again copy from the Ballston Journal, to whose faithful chronicling of events we are so greatly indebted for the local history of the great "war between the states." In its editorial columns of April 8, the Journal said:

"Victory! Glory! At length the supreme day and hour of triumph have come! The long suspense and agony are ended, and joy unbounded thrills the great heart of the nation. With the fall of Richmond the war is virtually ended * * * * Praise the Lord, and let all the people say Amen!"

In the local columns of the same issue appeared the following:

"For a few days the country has been wild with joy over the downfall of Richmond. Flags flying, bells pealing, cannon roaring, torch-lights flaring, bon-fires blazing, illuminations gleaming, and every other possible method of demonstrating the furor, have ruled the glad hour of triumph. Staid old Ballston was alive with enthusiasm, and if the bounds of propriety were somewhat exceeded, it was deemed excusable in a time of universal extravagances. We couldn't hold in, and when we can't, we don't expect anybody else will. There was a splendid exhibition of fireworks, a glowing address by Rev. Mr. Holman, and patriotic songs were sung by the young ladies of the Sans Souci Seminary, closing a celebration that does honor to the town.

"Ring royal bells—ring out great chimes!
Thrill with your joy the glowing air!
Make jubilant this blissful time—
This hour of hours—this moment rare!
Ring royal bells! peal wide your notes,
O'er Richmond's towers 'Old Glory' floats!"

A week later, while the note of joy over the victory won was still sounding on the air, the fearful word was flashed over the wires from Washington, that the great "War President" had fallen by the hand of an assassin. We quote again from the Journal:

"Lincoln Dead.—The announcement of his murder plunges the loyal part of this nation into the profoundest sorrow. In the crowning hour of rejoicing came the fatal deed that damns the assassin and his instigators to everlasting infamy. In a moment a nation's joy was turned into sorrow, and the appalling transition was so unexpected that it fell with crushing weight. No note of warning foreshadowed the coming horror, and the land is enshrouded in the gloom of midnight while yet the sun is at the zenith."

There was one traitor in the village who rejoiced over the awful deed. An item in the Journal reads:

"Ballston will henceforth be noted for the greatest stretch of magnanimity on record. On the fatal Saturday of our Nation's woe, a creature in male attire said he was glad Lincoln was dead; he ought to have been killed four years ago. He was not arrested, knocked down, nor dragged out. Great is magnanimity."

The funeral obsequies of President Lincoln took place in Washington on Wednesday, April 19. The Journal said of the mournful occasion: "It was a solemn day in Ballston. The emblems of grief greeted the eye in every street; the stores and public places were closed, and services appropriate to the day were attended at Christ Church and at the Methodist Church, commencing at twelve o'clock.

"There are little knots on the corners to-day,
And with bated breath they utter,
Not alone a dirge o'er the inanimate clay,
But avenging whispers mutter.

We are tasting to-day of the bitter cup,
Oh, lesson, we heed thy warning;
We know but One who can lift us up—
'Tis night—it will yet be morning."

WAR WITH SPAIN.

War against Spain, for the liberation of oppressed Cuba, was declared in April, 1898, and on the 23rd of that month President McKinley issued a call for 125,000 volunteers. These troops were immediately recruited from the ranks of the National Guard of the various States of the Union.

Again Ballston Spa answered the country's call, and the following were enrolled among the volunteers:

William P. Kinns, Charles T. Lockhart, Charles Reid, Thomas W. McNamara, James E. McGarr, William J. Neef, Frederick King, Charles C. Cook, Charles Crippen, Harry B. Ford, Charles H. Williams, Harry Snyder, Paul M. Pelletreau, William H. Newkom, Gerritt V. S. Quackenbush, Capt. Guy E. Baker, and Capt. William H. McKittrick.

Capt. McKittrick was commissioned a Captain of Volunteers, and attached to the personal staff of Gen. Shafter, his father-in-law, in command of the United States forces in Cuba. He took part in the battle of San Juan, and also in the engagements around Santiago, and on the surrender of that city was detailed by Gen. Shafter to hoist the American flag over the government building in that city. And to a Ballston boy fell the distinguished honor of raising "Old Glory" for the first time on Cuban soil, in token of victory for the American army. Captain McKittrick was born in Ballston Spa, the son of William H. McKittrick, who served in the Mexican war, and also in the civil war as captain of Co. C, 115th New York volunteers, and was killed in battle in front of Richmond.

Naval Cadet Powell, one of the little band of heroes, who, under Lieutenant Richard P.

Hobson, sank the collier Merrimac in the entrance to the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, in an effort to imprison Admiral Cervera's fleet, is a grandson of the late ex-Sheriff George B. Powell, and a great grand-son of Elisha Powell, one of the early settlers of Milton.

July 4th a celebration was held on the Fair Ground in this village, for the purpose of raising a fund to provide comforts for the Ballston soldiers in the camp at Fernandina, Fla. The late Rev. Charles Pelletreau, Rector of Christ Church, was in charge of the festivities. Thousands were present, and $1,200 was realized from the celebration.

The larger number of the Ballston volunteers were attached to the Saratoga Citizens Corps, which was designated as Company L of the Second Regiment. The Company on May 2, 1898, left Saratoga, and with the Regiment proceeded to Camp Black, on Long Island, where they were mustered into service for two years, unless sooner discharged.

May 18 the Regiment left Camp Black and arrived at Chattanooga, Tenn., on the night of May 20. Early next morning they made their new camp on the famous battle-field of Chickamauga, where one of the greatest battles of the civil war was fought.

On the first day of June the Second Regiment broke camp, and led the way to Tampa, Florida, where the Regiment encamped until July 26, when orders were received to proceed to the large and more healthful camp at Fernandina.

From day to day orders to sail for Cuba or Porto Rico were hourly expected, but the early suspension of hostilities, and the conclusion of peace with Spain, rendered this unnecessary. Company L was mustered out October 27, and the Ballston boys returned home.

REMINISCENCES.

A LIBERTY POLE.

Two weeks after the firing on Fort Sumter in April, 1861, a liberty pole one hundred and thirty feet in height was raised on High street, in front of the Armory. The first section, up to a decking, was sixty feet, the second section forty, and spliced to this was the topmost section of thirty feet. Through some oversight, the large gilt ball at the top was not settled to its place, but left about two feet of the iron rod to which it was attached visible from the street. Lee Whalen volunteered to climb the pole and drive the ball into place. Whalen had spent some years at sea, and quickly climbed to the deck, the pole having spikes up to this point. From the deck to the top was a sheer climb of seventy feet, but Whalen seemed to mount more rapidly than ever. He was anxiously watched by the assembled thousands, as the pole swayed violently. Reaching the top, Whalen unslung the large wooden maul from his belt, and quickly drove the ball into its proper position. He then slid rapidly down the pole, amid the cheers of the multitude. Within a few days, while a strong wind was blowing, some miscreant cut one of the guy ropes, and the upper seventy feet of the pole was blown into the vacant lot where the residence of Mr. Theodore Haight now stands, and "Old Glory" lay trailing in the mud. Suspicion pointed to a resident of the village, and it required a vigorous effort on the part of James W. Horton and some others, to prevent a coat of tar and feathers being applied to the suspected party. The pole was replaced in a few days, and stood until the close of the war.

TRUE PATRIOTISM.

A determined effort was being made to fill the quota of volunteers required from the town of Milton, and on Sunday evening September 7, 1862, a mass meeting was held at the recruiting tent on Low street. A platform had been erected for the speakers, and after several had spoken, Rev. William O. Holman came over from the Baptist Church near by, at the close of his service, and mounting the rostrum, made an eloquent and intensely patriotic appeal to the assembled multitude. In the crowd on the street was Mr. Eli Settle, the proprietor of the Blue Mill. Too far advanced in years to enlist himself, he was urging a young man to enroll his name. Said the young man: "I would like to go, but I have nothing to leave my family." Taking a roll of bills from his pocket, Mr. Settle replied: "Here are fifty dollars to give your wife, and I will see that she wants for nothing while you are gone."

The young man promptly enlisted. To another Mr. Settle repeated the offer, and another name was enrolled. To a third young man Mr. Settle said: "I have but ten dollars left, but if you will enlist, you can have that, and here is my watch for security until I can get to the Bank in the morning, when you shall have the other forty." To this the young fellow replied: "I don't want your watch, Mr. Settle, your word is good enough for me." And down went his name, and the quota was filled.

Mr. Settle was not the only man in Ballston to give practical evidence of this character, of the intense patriotism which animated them. James M. Cook, then about fifty-five years of age, not able to go to the front, under this call for volunteers gave $500 to the enlistment committee to be used in the same manner, and with a pledge that he would provide for the families of the volunteers; and Hon. Isaiah Blood duplicated the act of Mr. Cook. Doubtless there were other instances of like character. Those mentioned came under the personal notice of the writer.

WANTED TO GO WITH HIS BOYS.

Alexander Morrison, Wallace Morrison, Edward Morrison, and Ira B. Morrison, brothers, enlisted and went to the front. The father, Ira Morrison, Sr., upwards of fifty years of age, wanted to share the glory with his boys, and one day walked to Schenectady, fifteen miles, and asked to be enrolled as a volunteer. The recruiting officer inquired as to his age, and asked Morrison if he had any sons in the army. When the old man replied that he had five boys down in Virginia, the officer with some emotion, said kindly: "I think you have done your share. I can't enlist you at your age." Greatly disappointed, Mr. Morrison returned to his home in this village.

A SOLDIER'S WELCOME.

When the news came that brave "Steve" Horton had been wounded in battle, and would be sent home on furlough, a crowd gathered at the railroad station to greet him on his arrival. As the train rolled into town the "old trophy gun" boomed out a welcome. A carriage was awaiting just south of the track on Bath street, from which the horses had been unhitched, and a long rope attached. With continued cheers for the returned hero, fifty or more men and boys drew him to his home on High street.

A SOLDIER'S BURIAL.

The first burial of a soldier in the village cemetery will never be forgotten. His name is gone from our memory, but the scene remains. It was at the close of the day when the body reached the cemetery, accompanied by a military escort detailed from Albany for the sad duty. In presence of a numerous company the funeral service was read, and just as the sun was disappearing in the western sky, a volley from the muskets of the funeral squad flashed over the grave, taps sounded, and the soldier was left to peacefully slumber until the "reveille" of the last great day shall sound.

PATRIOTIC WOMEN.

The army hospitals were constantly in need of bandages and lint, and many were the times that the patriotic women of the village, young and old, gathered in the great parlor of the Sans Souci and spent the day picking lint and rolling bandages, which were forwarded to the army through the department at Albany. From one of these gatherings the ladies sent to the army hospitals three large boxes containing 400 bandages, 500 compresses, pillows, sheets, soap, towels, slippers, handkerchiefs, pins, nine large boxes of fine lint, grape wine, currant wine, port wine, old Maderia wine, Otard brandy, preserved fruits, jellies, and other delicacies.

HE GOT MAD.

John Harlow came home one day, and the stalwart giant, for such he was in very truth, carried an empty sleeve, and was so emaciated that his friends did not at first sight recognize him. Seated on a barrel in the store of Samuel Gould, where he was employed as clerk at the time he enlisted, he told us this story: "I was wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill. A minie ball entered my arm at the elbow and came out at the shoulder, shattering the bone into small pieces, and terribly lacerating my arm. While lying on the field unconscious, I was overlooked by the ambulance corps. I lay on the field for four days with nothing but hard tack to eat and the

water in my canteen to drink. When I realized that I had been deserted, I got so mad that I made up my mind I would not lie there and die. I got to my feet, I hardly know how, and supporting my mangled arm with my right hand, I marched twelve miles to the Union camp. On arriving I fell unconscious, and knew nothing until I woke up in the hospital, with my left arm taken off at the shoulder." Mr. Harlow from this time until the close of the war, had charge of the recruiting tent on Low street, just west of where the soldiers' monument now stands. About fifteen years ago he was appointed one of the Treasury watch at Washington, and for some ten years was chief of the watch. He died in Washington about four years ago.

BEAUREGARD WHIPPED.

Reference is made in the centennial ode to one "Beauregard," which recalls another incident. Captain Horton was seated on the piazza of the Village Hotel, with his crutches by his side, nearly recovered from a severe wound in the thigh. "Beauregard," thus named for his sympathy with the South, passing by and seeing young Horton, remarked: "I would like to see Arnold Harris, Doctor Moore, Jim Cook and Jim Horton strung up, and would like to have hold of the rope." Hardly were the words out of his mouth before "Steve" reached him, hopping on one crutch. A powerful blow laid Osgood, which was "Beauregard's" proper name, sprawling in the gutter, Horton saying, "I can thrash any man, even on crutches, who makes such a villainous remark." We boys, several in number stood by, ready to join in the unequal fray, but Osgood crawled to his feet and ran rapidly down Spring street and disappeared.

A DANDY LIEUTENANT.

Charlie Massey was about sixteen when he enlisted. Of a happy temperament, a good singer, and a jolly good fellow generally, he was the life of the camp. One or two instances of camp life told by "Charlie," are too good to be lost. In the regiment was a natty young lieutenant, very much of a martinet, and thoroughly disliked by the men. Charlie was on picket duty one cold night, and by mutual agreement with a "Johnnie" just beyond, lighted a fire to keep warm. This was against orders, and the lieutenant discovered Charlie seated by his fire, and placed him under arrest. Some time later Massey was again on picket duty on a rather dark night, and on the watch for the lieutenant. He had stationed himself in the road at the edge of a large and deep mud puddle, through which the officer must ride to reach the picket post. The lieutenant approached, and Massey halted him in the centre of the puddle with "Who goes there?" The answer came promptly: "Lieutenant ————!" "Dismount, advance, and give the countersign," commanded Massey. The lieutenant protested stoutly, but the ominous clicking of the lock of Charlie's gun caused him to hurriedly dismount, and wading through the slimy mud, which reached above his top boots, he meekly gave the required countersign. Charley was arrested next day, but on hearing the stories of the officer and the soldier, the Colonel complimented Massey on the proper discharge of his duty, much to the chagrin of the lieutenant.

"THERE'S A TIME TO LAUGH, AND —"

One day in camp Charlie saw a private of his company, with a heavy log on his shoulder, marching round and round in a circle, while an officer stood near by. It was the first time Massey had seen this punishment inflicted. He watched the proceeding a moment, and then burst out in hearty laughter. The officer said to him, "What are you laughing at?" Charlie, convulsed with laughter, could only point to the weary plodder. "You think it's funny, do you," said the officer, "suppose you try it for a while." The log was shifted to Charlie's shoulder, and well sobered by this time, he began his tiresome march, while his comrade sat by and enjoyed his discomfiture. Massey said it was tough, but it taught him a very salutary lesson.

IN ANDERSONVILLE.

The horrors of Andersonville prison were experienced for several months by seven Ballston boys; Alexander Morrison, Joe Cromack, Martin Lee, "Yankee" Inman, Andrew Brewer, Ira Tripp, and Edward Morrison. Ed. Morrison did not discover that his brother Alexander, and "Matt" Lee were in the prison for several weeks. They were

transferred to Florence, South Carolina, where the conditions were even worse than at Andersonville. Alexander Morrison tells the following incident which took place during the presidential election in 1864: The rebels in charge of the prison were anxious for McClellan's election over Lincoln, and to test the sentiment of the Union soldiers, and thus form some estimate as to the result, they had the soldiers vote, using black and white beans, the black counting for Lincoln, and the white for McClellan. The rebels let it be known that if the majority was for McClellan an extra day's rations would be given to the soldiers. The evident desire on the part of the rebels to see McClellan win, aroused an intense feeling and hundreds who said they had always voted the Democratic ticket marched up and deposited in the bag a black bean for Lincoln. McClellan was defeated three to one, much to the chagrin of the rebels.

A FIGHTING CHAPLAIN.

Rev. P. Franklin Jones, for two years pastor of the Baptist Church, just after the war, was a chaplain in the army. He was living in West Troy at the time he entered the service. His regiment reported to General Wool at Fortress Monroe. The home of the General was in Troy, and Chaplain Jones and he were warm friends. Calling to pay his respects to his friend and superior officer, the Chaplain was greeted thus: "Chaplain, what are you doing with that sword and those pistols?" for Jones was fully armed and equipped with sword and two large Colt's revolvers, which had been presented to him. Without giving opportunity for reply, the General continued, with a suspicious twinkle in his eyes, "I understand you preachers are down here to look after the spiritual welfare of the army, and to preach peace. How is it that I see you fully armed for the fight?" Chaplain Jones answered spiritedly: "I am not here to preach peace, but to assert that this is a righteous war, and that it is every man's duty to make sure that these rebels are soundly whipped, and I propose to do my share of the business. No skulking in the rear with the ambulances for me. Where the thickest of the fight is, there you'll always find me." The white haired old veteran laughed heartily at the sharp retort, and slapping Chaplain Jones smartly on the shoulder, said: "I knew it, Jones, you couldn't do otherwise if you would." And after the first battle in which Chaplain Jones took part, the boys named him "the fighting chaplain."

Many people in Ballston used to wonder why Pastor Jones wore his hair hanging down almost to his shoulders, and in such a tumbled fashion. With General Hooker, in the mountains of West Virginia, on a winter's day, wearied with hard marching, and with a cold rain falling, they halted for the night, and Chaplain Jones, with hundreds of others, dropped on the damp ground and was instantly sound asleep. His head, from which his hat had fallen, was pressed against a fallen tree, and when he awoke his hair and scalp were frozen to the log. It was with difficulty he was released, and ever after his scalp was so sensitive that it was positive torture to touch his hair.

A NOBLE WAR HORSE.

Acting as aide on his General's staff during a sharp engagement, Chaplain Jones was sent to ascertain what some Union troops were doing so far in advance on their right. Riding on his mission up a rise of ground toward the woods in which the troops were to be seen, he discovered when close upon them that they were rebels. He was ordered to surrender, but wheeled his horse and dashed down the hill with bullets flying thick around him. At the foot of the hill was a wide ditch which his gallant steed bravely leaped, but the opposite bank gave way, and sliding backward the Chaplain fell into the ditch, and was safe for the moment. His faithful horse did not desert him. Scrambling to his feet on the farther side of the ditch, the noble animal faced the enemy, and fairly snorted out his defiance. Chaplain Jones, amid a storm of bullets, sprang from the ditch, leaped to his saddle, and was soon beyond the reach of the rebel fire. He reported to his General, the flanking rebel troops were soon dislodged from their position, and their army in full retreat. The "fighting chaplain" was especially commended for bravery in action, in the official report of the engagement. The chaplain's sword belt was nearly severed by a bullet, one spur was shot away, and his hat showed two bullet holes, but his person did not

receive a scratch. His horse was wounded in the shoulder, and had one ear shot through.

A VILLAGE IN MOURNING.

When the fateful news of the assassination of President Lincoln reached Ballston Spa, a deep gloom spread over the entire community. Faces paled as the great calamity which had befallen the nation came to be realized. Business was suspended, and groups of men gathered here and there in the streets of the village, with grief-stricken faces, wondering what further disaster was to fall. And then the emblems of mourning began to appear. The flags were drooping at half-mast, and at mid-day a black pall seemed to have fallen on the village. The public buildings, the churches, the stores and private residences were heavily draped in black, until not a yard of black cloth could be found in town that was not in use as a symbol of mourning over the irreparable loss the country had sustained. Not before or since has such a scene been witnessed. It was in striking contrast to the brilliant garb the village wore at the recent Centennial. The dark picture will linger in the memory as long as life shall last.

The war record of Ballston Spa and this immediate locality is a record of lofty patriotism, heroic achievement, and intense love of country. This chapter of local history can have no more fitting conclusion than an account of the dedication of the Soldiers' Monument in June, 1888.

BALLSTON'S MONUMENT DAY.

The soldiers' monument was dedicated June 16, 1888. Great preparations had been made for the event, and thousands were present throughout the day. Public buildings, stores, and residences throughout the village were gaily decorated.

The grand parade, one of the largest ever witnessed in Ballston Spa, was led by Doring's Band, of Troy, and the Saratoga Citizens' Corps. There were four other Bands in line, and two drum corps of eighteen men each. The Troy Citizens' Corps, with one hundred men; thirteen Grand Army Posts; six fire companies; several societies, and a long line of carriages were in the procession.

The dedication exercises were held at two o'clock, and opened with the singing of Keller's American Hymn by the Ballston Musical Association; thirty-seven little girls, attired in national colors sang the "Star Spangled Banner," followed by the introductory address of Hon. William J. Parkinson, and the oration by General Daniel Butterfield. The dedication poem by Fred Emerson Brooks, of San Francisco, was read by Mr. John Person.

Soldiers' Monument.

THE DEDICATION.

Hon. William J. Parkinson was chairman of the dedication exercises in the afternoon. He made an eloquent address, saying, in part:

"Comrades and Fellow Citizens: Twenty-seven years ago a young man, then a clerk in one of the

stores of this village, enlisted as a soldier in the army of the Union. Twenty-six years ago William B. Horton—son of the man who for forty years was Clerk of this county, and whose memory is now cherished by all the people, James W. Horton—wrote to that honored father that the young clerk, by the time the letter he (Horton) was then writing, would probably be no more, as he had just visited his bedside in one of our hospitals, and he was then supposed to be dying. Comrade Horton received what proved to be his death wound at Malvern Hill, and for years, as on last Decoration Day, his was among the honored graves lovingly decorated by the tender hands of you, his comrades in arms. Through a kind Providence the clerk-soldier did not die, but now has the pleasure of standing before you in the person of your speaker. Such incidents as these culled from the personal experience of myself, as well as that of others, is what makes the present hour and these services of special interest to not only me but to others, who, as soldiers, are now assembled in this place to honor the occasion and themselves by their presence here. * * * The purpose of erecting some suitable memorial to the brave men from this section who participated in the late war has been in the minds of the soldiers in our midst ever since their return from the seat of war, and several attempts to this end have been made, but always without success until about two years ago, when it was resolved by the veterans of McKittrick Post, of this village, to bring the matter more prominently before the public and push it to completion. * * * The monument is here; and as we look upon it all may see that it is indeed a 'thing of beauty,' as we hope it may be a source of patriotic joy forever,' to the generations yet to come."

THE ORATOR.

In introducing General Butterfield, Mr. Parkinson paid a glowing tribute to the distinguished soldier. He said:

"And now, gentlemen and comrades, I come to what is to me one of the chief pleasures of this occasion. Arriving at Hall's Hill, Virginia, in the fall of '61, with my regiment, the 44th New York 'Ellsworth Avengers,' we were at once brigaded under the command of the gentleman who is the orator of this eventful day, and now with us. For a time I don't think I ever hated a man more in my life than I did this distinguished gentleman; he drilled us so unmercifully, as we then thought. It was double quick from morning until night, and sometimes at midnight, to see how well we could do it. If all the balls which the boys vowed would go through him in our first engagement had done so, he would have been riddled worse than any coal sieve you ever saw, and I don't think he would be here to-day. But he never was afraid of balls. And when we realized his worthy purpose in thus drilling or disciplining his men, which we did not fully until the enemy had been met, and upon the field beheld, amid those exciting scenes, that his usually stern countenance was wreathed in smiles, as dashing up and down the line amid the leaden hail, with waving sword, he would cry, 'Come on boys; give them a Roland for their Oliver!' then, amid the red hot shot of the gory field, we became acquainted with our leader, and strong hatred was turned to stronger love, and from that hour to this the life scarce of a single member of that regiment would not be so dear but its owner would gladly yield it for the honor of the man so loved by his men of the blue, General Daniel Butterfield. But of his worth to the nation in that struggle let 'fighting Joe Hooker' reply, for he who honors us this day as our speaker was the man at the helm as chief of staff, when Hooker's loyal legions climbed the rugged steeps of Lookout Mountain, and there fought the 'battle amid the clouds,' driving Bragg and his forces in confusion from their seemingly impregnable position on the crest of that famous mountain top. Leaving New York as Colonel of the 12th Regiment, New York Volunteers, he was soon advanced to the command of a brigade, then a division, then a corps, and at last stood chief of staff of the Army of the Potomac, having in that eventful struggle for the nation's life, participated in twenty-eight general engagements, was wounded twice, and in that great and decisive battle of the war, Gettysburg, stood as counsel and guide to General Meade, there commanding our forces, thus crowning his record as a soldier with a halo of patriotic glory that makes his name immortal. This distinguished soldier, courteous gentleman, and loyal citizen, General Daniel Butterfield of New York, I now have the pleasure of introducing to you."

General Butterfield's oration was a masterly effort. We copy that portion of his address in which he referred to this locality. The General said:

THE ORATION.

"In rude or classic form, monuments or statues have marked spots of historic interest for uncounted ages, the world over; and in our own country, monuments and statues perpetuate the memory of our illustrious dead, arising as well to adorn public parks and squares, as to show the gratitude of a patriotic people."

Allusion was then made to many of the monuments of antiquity, and of later times. Continuing, the speaker said: "Let us come to our own, and the purpose for which we are here assembled. Approached with thought, surrounded by memories and reflections, its purpose reaches far beyond words. Nothing we may say can add to its value to posterity. Eloquence, rhetoric and recital may, like the labor of the skilled workman, which gives polish to the diamond, show more clearly its value and its beauty. The worth is in the gem itself. The deeds, the efforts, the patriotism commemorated by the monument we dedicate to-day, with all its halo and entourage of bravery, unselfishness, love of country, and true honor, is the pure gem to which

we may try to add by word and thought, whatever best we can, to enhance its lustre and increase its clearness, brilliancy, and exemplary and historic worth. * * * * Broken arches and ruined ramparts are always eloquent and suggestive of valiant deeds, even where their special teachings are not comprehended; but manifold greater are the impressions which they make when the patriotism we adore has hallowed them. Recalling the speech of Napoleon in front of the pyramids, may we not point to this proud list of heroes, whose names our monument bears, and say to the sons and daughters of Milton, of Ballston, and of Malta, read there the glory of your homes, the honor of your fathers, for what they fought, for what they suffered, for what they died, the heritage is yours. From their crown of glory they look down to you, their descendants, proud of your remembrance and your gratitude, confident of your devotion, your fidelity, your loyalty and honor. By this token you have shown it.

THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

"There stands your record—Major Fuller—Captain Evans—Captain Benedict—Captain Palmer, with their gallant comrades, twenty in all, your quota of the heroes who fought with stubborn will, and encountered disasters, privations, hunger and thirst, weariness of body and soul, but reaped the glories of the Revolution, which founded our Republic. In their grand fight for the independence of the nation, their valor and courage wrested the Colonies from the British throne. We need not tell the story of the battles of the Revolution. The memories of Bunker Hill, Trenton, Valley Forge, Lexington, Yorktown, Monmouth, of Bemis Heights and Saratoga, (the Marathon of America,) one of the fifteen decisive battles of the world, crowd upon us. The air is filled with them.

1812.

"On the 20th of June, 1812, the youngest nation of the world, to protect the Independence won by the heroes of the Revolution, threw down the gauntlet boldly and with self-reliance against one of the proudest, richest and most powerful of nations, England, which had insolently continued to search our ships and did not respect our maritime rights.

"Again this community responds—Major Goodrich, Captains Westcot and Beach, with their comrades thirty-eight in all, that are known and recorded. Of these and among them were many who were descended from heroes of the same family who served in the war of the Revolution. We shall speak of them again.

MEXICO.

"A neighboring State proclaims its independence and desires to join the Union, and we become involved in another war,—the Mexican war. Right proudly and promptly do your towns respond. The army is small—few are needed—but bravely they come. The heroes of Ballston, Milton and Malta march forth among the brave men that bore the stars and stripes in triumph from the Rio Grande across the pampas, cactus and sand plains to the City of Mexico and the heights of Chapultepec. They wrote the battles of Buena Vista, Palo Alto, Cerro Gordo, Vera Cruz, Churubusco and the City of Mexico upon the escutcheon of the Nation's honor, and added to our national wealth and strength not only the empire of Texas as a State, but the golden gate of San Francisco and the beautiful territories of the Pacific coast.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

"And now we come to the brave men who went forth to endure the hardships of battle between the opposing forces which had been in conflict from the birth of the Nation—the conflict between Freedom and Slavery—the attempt to destroy the Nation and thereby perpetuate and extend this accursed crime. What brave acts and heroic deeds, patient endurance, steadfast patriotism, matchless courage and glorious deaths of those of whom we now come to speak. From the workshop, from the field, from the store, from the college, from the cloister, from the farm, and from every walk of life, came forth willing, loyal hosts, bent upon preserving the integrity of the Union and saving it from destruction.

"Let us recount for the student in after years the story that he will find written all over this land: that the brave descendants of the heroes of Saratoga and Monmouth rather chose to die than that the victories of the Revolution should be lost, and the Government and Nation that they made and upheld by force of arms, should be torn asunder by Slavery's treason.

"The 77th New York Regiment, with its fifty-three skirmishes, engagements and battles; two hundred and seventy-three killed, wounded and missing, has with its record part of yours.

"The 115th New York, with its thirty-one skirmishes, engagements and battles, and three hundred killed, wounded and missing, has with its record also a part of yours. In these two commands seventy died in the enemy's hands.

"The 4th and 13th Artillery also have part of your records, with their aggregate of thirty odd engagements and battles, and in the two regiments six hundred casualties.

"Were I to attempt to recite the bravery and gallant deeds of every one of these, the setting of the sun would come before justice and a fair *resume* was completed. * * * * * *

"During the war of the Revolution Stephen Fuller was one of you, and his descendant, George Fuller, of the 77th New York, proved himself worthy of the renown of his ancestors in the Revolution.

"John Whitehead, another Revolutionary hero, was the father of Oliver Whitehead, who went forth to the Mexican war.

"The children of Sanbun Ford, a Revolutionary hero, are found in the war of 1812. Again the patriotic blood breaks out in their descendant, John B. Ford, of the 4th Heavy Artillery.

"The brave Salisburys who served in the war of the Revolution, transmitted their patriotic blood to Horace T. Salisbury, who served in the 13th New York Heavy Artillery in our last war.

"William J. Jennings, of the 115th New York, and Thomas Jennings of the Second Cavalry, renewed the patriotic blood of their ancestor, Jesse Jennings, a hero of the Revolution.

"The Clarks and Woods who served in the Revolutionary war each sent a host of descendants into the 115th and the 77th New York. Captain Beriah Palmer, from your town in the Revolutionary war, sends a grandson to the Mexican war, and another descendant to the Civil war. The family of Luthers, one brother to the war of 1812, and one brother to the Mexican war. The grandfathers, fathers, sons, grandsons in the Revolutionary war, the war of 1812, the Mexican war and the last war, increasing in numbers as time rolls on, in the family of Irish. Irish by name, they are your neighbors and people, and if we credit all the fighting qualities ascribed the race, they may well be Irish by nature. In the war of 1812 we find John Story, his sons and descendants represented in the Mexican war and in the last war. The Thompsons of the 115th and 77th New York had fighting ancestors in the Mexican war. Cornelius Schermerhorn, of the war of 1812, sends down patriotic blood to James Schermerhorn, who goes forth to the Mexican war, only three of his company coming home, and his descendants again are in the last war. In the rolls of the 77th we find the Quackenbush family descended from the Quackenbushes who went forth from this locality to the war of 1812. A. C. Dunning, of the 115th New York upholds the reputation of his father, E. Dunning, in the war of 1812. The brothers Harlow in the 44th and 115th New York, write their names proudly under that of their grandfather, A. C. Harlow, who fought in the war of 1812.

"The Smiths of the war of 1812 find their sons and descendants in the Mexican war and in the last war. The Beach brothers, of the war of 1812, send their descendant, Capt. Beach of the 77th New York, to the last war. And so we find the Burnhams, the Lees, the Armstrongs, the Seamans, the Weeds, the Thompsons, the Palmers, the Millers, the Storys and the Luthers, represented in two wars, some of them in three. Here in your historic town, attending your famous law school, lived Col. Slocum, who fell at the head of his regiment at Bull Run. The many eminent and noted graduates of that famous school, familiar with your shady walks and pure air will read with pleasure the record of your work in placing this shaft, and will recall memories of honored citizens like Rev. Dr. Babcock, the eminent divine and scholar, Eli Barnum, Joel Lee, James W. Horton; Senators Geo. G. Scott and Isaiah Blood; James D. Warren, of Buffalo, George W. Chapman, and others. What a galaxy of proud, worthy statesmen and citizens who have gone from your midst, and yet there are more, succeeded and followed by your living and renowned sons, like West, L'Amoreaux, Gilmour, Moore, Thompson, Grose, Medbery, Parkinson, and a host of others, whose hands are visible in this most worthy and glorious work. There are victories of peace as well as war, and there your noble sons have crowned you with them.

"We could rejoice if there were with us to-day that graceful orator and speaker, that noble and renowned son of Ballston—whom many within the sound of my voice will remember—when the village was ablaze with patriotic fervor, the white tents here all around the place where we now stand, the recruits coming in—memories of the silver-tongued speech and devotion of James M. Cook, 'to the citizen soldier' float back to us like a dream. May we not believe that he looks down with pride and satisfaction on your work. Oh, that he could speak to us of the virtues and the memories of your brave sons.

"I may be pardoned if I speak here, to the exclusion of others of two names on that monument who served in one of my favorite regiments, under my immediate command. A father and his three sons, all the men of the family, go forth to the last war. One of the sons who served with me, returns to you to be the inspiration of this beautiful monument. Honor to your worthy chairman, who has honored himself in this work. An aide of the commanding General asked for a volunteer on a most dangerous and perilous duty. A young man stepped to the front, so young looking as to cause the inquiry if he knew the dangerous service and the risk. Proudly he replied, 'I understand myself;' and bravely he performed the task. In the terrible battle of Malvern Hill, in the magnificent charge we made, he was severely wounded in the leg. Placed by the side of a tree, they left a canteen of water with him. He placed the canteen by his side and commenced firing and continued to fire until the surgeons came and decided it necessary to cut off his leg. 'There are rebel bullets in that leg; I will keep it for more of 'em, or die with it,' said the brave fellow, and he died, another hero on your list, Guy C. Delong, of the 44th New York."

General Butterfield then spoke at some length of the Grand Army of the Republic, alluding in eloquent terms to the principles of the order, "fraternity, liberty, loyalty." He concluded his splendid oration with these words:

"To-day, as in the past, we renew our vows, and while our neighboring State of Connecticut unveils her noble tribute of an equestrian statue to her grand old hero, General Putnam, we here and now consecrate this monument to our patriots of Ballston, and Milton, and Malta, who loved that flag and all it represents as we do.

'When Freedom, from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robes of night,
And set the stars of glory there.
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,

With streakings of the morning light;
Then from his mansion in the sun
She called her eagle bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The Symbol of her chosen land.'

"Honor and glory ever to that flag. Prosperity and success to the country it represents, and blessings on the good people of those towns who honor patriotic devotion by this graceful tribute to those who upheld the flag and the nation."

THE POEM.

The poem for the occasion was written by Fred Emerson Brooks, of San Francisco. Mr. Brooks was unable to be present, and the poem was read by Mr. John Person.

On Saratoga's classic sod,
Where Liberty the gift of God,
Came down among those patriots old,
Her starry banner to unfold,
Remarking in a quiet way,
"This flag and I have come to stay!"
Is just the spot in all the land,
A granite monument should stand,
In honor of heroic men,
Who, in a hundred years from then,
Must button up their coats of blue,
And die to make her saying true.

Unveil the shaft! and stand aside,
For yonder, see, with stately stride,
Sweet Goddess, mindful of her own,
Comes Liberty to kiss the stone.
We hail thee Ballston, "first in war!"
Thou art the shrine of "G. A. R."
Because, the first to lead their ranks,
The first to earn the Nation's thanks,
The first upon the altar laid,
To lead that countless dead brigade
Up into glory through the grave
Was Ellsworth, bravest of the brave!

Before that Alexandrian inn
He quite forgets his discipline;
But where's discretion when one sees
A lawless banner in the breeze
That has no right in freedom's air—
No right to flutter anywhere?
His soul with indignation burns
While to his regiment he turns—
"Halt!" there they stand transfixed as stone;
And mounting to the roof alone,
Before the eyes of all the town,
He tears that cursed banner down;
And drags it down the tavern stairs
Where death is lurking unawares;
Fate leaps from out a traitor's gun
And marks him hero number one.

He seems to say beneath his breath,
This flag and I go down to death.
I drench it in a crimson flood—
Baptize its downfall in my blood.

We sometimes hear with great surprise,
"His was a useless sacrifice!"
Will some historian pray tell—
When that belov'd young hero fell,
When that first drop of blood was spilled—
How many million pulses thrilled?

'Twas then our eagle soaring high,
Went screaming through the murky sky:
"Arise, ye freemen! Rise ye must!
Shall freedom's banner trail the dust?
Shall treason's banner take its place,
To flaunt in fair Columbia's face?"

'Twas then the nation took alarm;
The plowman left his untilled farm;
The apron by the anvil dropt;
The grist went home—the mill-wheel stopt.

The judge to southward turned his face
Declaring he'd decide their case;
The creditor was filled with grief—
The lawyer was a bit too brief,
He signed the roll—all stood aghast—
His hand was legible at last,
While some who couldn't write the name
Just made their mark, 'twas all the same.

The tailor's off, nor cares a whit
How sadly his new trousers fit;
The fighting parson drops his text,
He'd be a missionary next—
Ah that some rebel should abridge
His usefulness at Mission Ridge.

Fond mother, check the welling eye
And save those tears for by-and-by!
Your boy has gone, he looks so neat,
His knapsack holds an extra sheet;
His comrades laughingly ask its use—
"Brave soldiers need no flag of truce."
"This mother-gift I'll keep," he says,
"Perchance 'twill do for bandages."

And so they went the country o'er,
While thousands followed thousands more;
The brightest, bravest and the best—
And how they fought—you know the rest!
Did all return? I've heard folks say
Some wandered off the other way.

'Tis fitting you should raise on high
A shaft to him the first to die!
And it would tell enough of fame
In bearing none but Ellsworth's name!—
And yet the seven hundred men
Whose names are here, full well *ye ken*
Were soldiers just as brave as he
And gave for others' liberty
Their own; died to release the slave
And back to fair Columbia gave
Her land redeemed from deep to deep,
All save the spot wherein they sleep—
For that she only holds in trust—
Where valor lies 'tis sacred dust.

Though mother earth take all the rest
Who fall asleep upon her breast,
To none gives she such honored room
As those who fill a soldier's tomb!
While Freedom with her white arms bare
Holds up this ægis high in air:
"I live because ye would not yield
Dead heroes of the battle field!"

Here, gazing on this granite pile
And musing of the dead the while,
Methinks I hear some alien say:—
"You've laid the *blue* beneath the *gray!*"*
Irreverent stranger say not so!
This granite shaft I'd have you know
But pays a tribute justly due:
The *gray* perpetuates the *blue.*
In looking for the Nation's dead,
Pray turn your eyes just overhead
They are not here beneath this sod
But yonder with the Nation's God—
The *blue* is still above the *gray*—
Their souls went up the Milky Way,
That starry high-road through the ev'n
Whose farther gate swings into Heaven.
Their banner hides them from our view,
Whose sunset red, and white, and blue
Now flutters from their last redoubt
With not a single star plucked out.

Could you this temple veil divide,
Could you but pull the folds aside
Of that great banner God unfurled
And gaze beyond this curtained world,
You'd see your comrades on the march
Pass 'neath their grand triumphal arch
Of rainbow glory—hear the cry—
Death was our grandest victory!
But since you cannot see the gate,
Why, blessed comrades, you must wait.

As Sol creeps up the eastern sky
To gild the name upon this die,
Glory shall read each name aloud—
From high above the highest cloud
Some angel voice most sweetly clear
Will to the *roll call* answer—Here!

THOSE WHO FOUGHT.

To make a complete roll of the men who enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, from the village of Ballston Spa, and the adjoining towns of Milton, Ballston and Malta is a difficult, if not an impossible task. No local record was made at the time of enlistment, and the published records of the State, while very complete, give only the place of enlistment, and not the home of the volunteer. The roll of veterans made for the soldiers' monument added many names to the record previously published in Mr. Sylvester's history, and the personal acquaintance of the author with many of the volunteers, assisted by survivors of the war living in the towns mentioned, makes the following roll of volunteers, with the locality from which they enlisted, undoubtedly as nearly correct as will ever be obtainable:

*Referring to the blue coats beneath the gray granite.

BALLSTON SPA.

Adna Abbs, Jr.
William Abbs
Braman Ayers
Braman Ayers, Jr.
Andrew J. Armstrong

George S. Batcheller
William G. Ball
Return J. Burnham
Henry W. Burnham
Jay Burnham
William H. Boice
Isaac C. Boice
James L. Boocock
David Bourst
Andrew Brower
William Barrett
Thomas Brady
Andrew Butler
George Bolton

Thomas Craig
William Craig
George Cruise
Charles Cruise
Isaac Cousé
William J. Chilson
James Conlon
Chester P. Cornell

Henry C. Delong
John Duckett
Joseph Dallas
James Dunk
Andrew J. Dubois
Henry C. Dye
Levi Demore

Christopher Emperor
John Emperor
James Emperor
John T. Eldridge
Nathan Eldridge
Warren Earls
Patrick English
John Ellsworth

Christian Frear
John S. Fuller
Schuyler Freeman
Stephen Farrell
David Frisbie, Jr.
George F. Foster
Collins Foster
Charles H. Foster
Robert Fox
John B. Ford
James G. Ferris

Elkanah Gildersleve
George T. Graham
Sylvester Gould
George R. Goodwin
Dudley Goodwin
James K. Gillespie
James Groom
John Gibbons
E. Goddard
Charles Gurnsey

Stephen S. Horton
William B. Horton
Clement C. Hill
Noble P. Hammond
Alanson F. Hatch
Otis Holbrook
Amasa A. Holbrook
John H. Hovey
Stephen Harris
Thomas Harris
Rowland Harris
Frederick Hope
John R. Harlow
George M. Hoyt
Edwin C. Hoyt
Dallas M. Hoyt
Charles W. Howard
John Howard
Andrew Hassett
Joshua Heritage
William H. Hewitt, Jr.

James E. Irish
Chauncey B. Irish
Luther C. Irish
George W. Ingalls
Edwin R. Ingalls

William J. Jennings
William H. Johnson

Robert Birch Kelly
Hugh Kelly
Stephen Keyes

George W. Luffman
William Luffman
Moses Laque
Louis Laque
Moses Lewis
Joseph Lewis
George B. Lawrence
Martin Lee
Samuel C. LaRue
Louis Lane
Henry Lowry
William H. Link
George LeClear
E. Lehman
Merrills Lansing
Joseph Laque
T. Luffman

William H. McKittrick
Frederick S. Mosher
Alexander Morrison
Wallace Morrison
Edward Morrison
Ira B. Morrison
Samuel Massey
Charles Massey
James C. Milliman
Alexander McIntosh
Wallace McIntosh
Thomas Mainhood
George McCarg
George Millham
Albert McLane
John Mitchell
John T. Mosher
Horace J. Medbery
James E. Mabb
Clemons Morris
Patrick McGarr
John Mosher
James McNab
Ralph E. Mead
James B. McLean
David D. Miller

Henry O'Neil
John O'Neil
Thomas Osborn
John O'Brien

Edward Parkinson
Edward C. Parkinson
William J. Parkinson
George H. Parkinson
Melvin H. Potter
Asahel W. Potter
Robert Porter
Isaac Porter
James Pitts
George C. Parks
James W. Parks
A. Peret

James E. Reid
Albert J. Reid
John Reid
Earl Rider
Edward Rogers

William H. Sherman
Hiram P. Sherman
Hiram R. Sweet
Hiram Sweet
William Scism
Charles Searles
Benjamin T. Simon
Lafayette Schermerhorn
Paul Settle, Jr.
Philip Schaeffer
Michael H. Smith
Frederick Smith
Richard Spicer
Thomas Spicer
John T. Spicer
Arnold Spicer
Frank Spicer
Edwin Spicer
Martin V. Sheffer
Charles H. Sullivan
John P. Staples
George Snow
David E. Sears

Rev. David Tully
Gideon A. Tripp
Ephraim J. Tripp
Ira Tripp
Flavius A. Titus
James D. Thompson
Miletus S. Taft
George W. Trumble

Jas. B. Van Steenburgh
S. R. Van Steenburgh
Geo. L. Van Steenburgh
Jno. H. Van Steenburgh
Asa Van Dyke
George Van Dyke
Henry Vickerage

James E. Webster
Daniel Webster
George Webster
Joseph S. Wayne
P. Platt Williams
Horace Weaver
James M. Wood
Alonzo M. Weatherwax
Albert A. Weatherwax
William Weatherwax
Atwood Wilber
Datus E. Wilber
Samuel H. Weldon
Lee Whalen

Rush H. Young
Harvey Young
Waldo Young

TOWN OF MILTON.

William Arnold
Arnold T. Ayers
Charles Andrews
Wm. H. Alexander
James Ashman
Christian Arnold

Daniel E. Bortell
William Bortell
James Bortell
William Bartell
Thomas C. Black
William A. Baker
George Bolton
Nathan Brown
Henry Brower
James W. Bacon
Daniel Bacon
Case Ballou
Edwin Bobenreath
Alexander J. Beach
George Bowers
C. M. Burbey
Milo E. Burbey
Stephen R. Blackmer
Louis Bertrand
Frank Brown
Charles Bennett
Nathan Brower
Andrew Benton

Joseph Cromack
Sidney O. Cromack
William Campbell
Clark Collins
Charles P. Cornell
Eugene N. Cornell
George H. Curren
S. J. Cutbush
Patrick Cannon
Mark Cochran
James W. Cole
James Cuyler
Jared L. Crouch
John Crouch
Charles M. Carter
Nathaniel Clark
Michael Cochran

Robert N. Delong
Guy C. Delong
Egbert W. Davis
Stephen Davis
Truman Deuel
Joseph R. Day
Benjamin H. Day
Timothy Driscoll
Abel B. Dye
Wesley J. Date
Thomas P. Davis

Edward Estabrook
Leonard Englehart
Alfred Eighmy, Jr.
William Eastham

Andrew J. Freeman
William H. Freeman
Herman C. Fowler
A. M. Fitzgerald
James V. Fogg
Samuel Farnsworth
Cyrus M. Fay
George Fuller

Patrick Goonan
Terrence Gregg
Gottfield Gleesettle
Frederick Gleesettle
David E. Goffe
Justus M. Gilson
John Geogehan
Warren J. Groesbeck
Harley Groesbeck
John Greer
J. Golden
Isaac Garrison

Alexander C. Holmes
George L. Hayes
Seymour Harris
Smith Harlow
Nicholas Hudson
Alva Hickok
James A. Hanna
Ozias Hewitt
Cornelius S. Huyck
Warren B. Huyck
William L. Hoyt
William Hall
Edward Hall
Martin Hunter
William L. Hyatt
John R. Harris
H. Hall

"Yankee" Inman

James Jermain
Benjamin J. Jones
Edward D. James

Frederick Keenholts
Christopher F. Keenholts
Oscar Kemp
Benjamin P. Knapp

William Lewis
Jesse R. Lewis
H. C. Lockwood
Edwin L. Lockwood
Matthew Love
Francis Love
John S. Ladow
Barney C. Lee
Louis Lackley
John Lewthwaite
George C. Lowry
William J. Lowrey

Frederick Morehouse
Ferdinand Miller
Patrick Murray
E. Wilson Merriman
Bernard McGinnis
Alexander Mead
Andrew Miller
James H. Moore
Michael McWilliams
George W. Moore
Frank H. McCormick
George Marcellus

Leonard Osman
Elijah Olmstead
Frank Obree

Charles Pettit
Henry Packard
Alfred Picket
Anson J. Palmatier
Reuben Parkhurst
Charles A. Perry
Joseph Putnam
Seth W. Potter

Patrick D. Rooney
M. Relyea
W. Relyea

Elijah Sherman
Edward C. Slocum
Harris T. Slocum
John Southwart
Darius Shill

E. P. Shill
John G. Steinbauer
Tobias Salisbury
Horace J. Salisbury
Simeon Sill
Varnam Spencer
Patrick Shay
Patrick Sheehan
N. J. Schermerhorn
D. W. Schermerhorn
Legar Strong
J. W. Seaman
J. H. Simmons
N. Swan

Isaac Thorp
Benjamin Truman
Royal M. Tenney

Alonzo Vandenburgh

Albert L. Wood
George M. Wood
Norman Wood
James A. Wager
Jeremiah Wager
Eugene Werner
Isaac Warn
John Walls
John R. Wilbur
Loren Woodcock
Henry J. Webber
William Webb
Henry Warner
John Woodworth

TOWN OF BALLSTON.

Edward S. Armstrong
Thomas Andrews
Frazer Atkins
Henry Abbs

William G. Bradshaw
John H. Briggs
George H. Briggs
Abram G. Bradt
William Bradt
George H. Bradt
Thomas J. Bradt
John Barnhart
George W. Bigelow
Marcus S. Burrus

Frank Clark
Lewis Calkins
Hubert Curtis
Philip S. Christy

William Davis
Josiah Dean
M. Dean
Thomas H. Dorsey

George W. Gardner

Philip M. Hill
Frank Harris

Joseph F. Jones
D. K. Smith Jones

Ransom Knights
Michael Kildea
John Kildea
Otis King
John Kearnes
Alfred H. Kingsley

Truman M. Loveland
John Lanehart
Jacob L. Lansing
Levinus Lansing
John E. Lansing

Richard Millerd
Frederick Martin
William H. McIntosh
Richard L. McIntosh
Henry McIntosh
Edward Middleton
John Morris
John S. McKnight

William R. Miller
Lyman E. Miller

Adam Niles
Samuel H. Neilson
Samuel Nelson
Robert E. Nelson

Peter Post

William H. Quivey
Aaron B. Quivey

Patrick Reidy

Horace L. Stiles
George E. Springer

John H. Shivis
Benjamin J. Severance
Charles Spiegel

Lewis Trites

William Wait
John J. Wood
Gilbert Warren
Jacob Wager
Norman F. Wicks
Edmund Williams
John H. Welch
George W. Welch
John Woodworth
W. Wager

TOWN OF MALTA.

Joseph C. Abeel
Hamilton Abeel
Titus D. Allen
Alonzo Allen
Charles D. Atkinson
Philip J. Austin
Charles Atkins

Chauncey L. Beebe

Benjamin H. Carr
Charles C. Clark
Alfred Cook

Charles S. Dunham
Albert Dunning
Eli F. Dunning
John B. Davis

George D. Fish

Erastus H. Harder
Warren Hill
Orrin Hill

William H. Kane

Abram Lent

William McCarty
Charles W. Miller
Abner Mosher
Beekman R. Near

Edward G. Olmstead
G. Albert Ogden

Joseph Pairer
Archy Phillips

William H. Rose

George D. Story
Eugene Shears
John Stewart
Sidney Smith
William Selch
Peter Sickler
C. Simpson

Michael Van Horn
George W. Vail
Jas. H. Vanderwerken
Jacob H. Van Arnem
Wm. R. Van Arnem

William W. Worden
Elias Washburn

The following list comprises the names of veterans whose names also appear on the monument, with the places from which they enlisted, so far as they can be ascertained. A large number of this list resided in Ballston Spa at the time the monument was erected:

Charlton—Nathan H. Brown, William Caw, Garrett S. Grovesteen, William H. Hart, William H. Jones, William H. Owens, Charles H. Palmer, Charles W. Rowley, Henry A. Smith, Thomas Stairs, Charles R. Severance, John Van Evera, Jas. K. Wilson.

Clifton Park—Warren Clapper, Albert Jones, Benjamin Weight Noxon.

Corinth—Francis E. Brower.

Day—Elijah C. Bennett, Ambrose B. Milliman.

Edinburgh—Loren H. Cole, David Jones.

Galway—Thomas Armer, Merritt B. Allen, Henry Bolton, John J. Hunter, George Hughes, William Tompkins, Charles F. Wait.

Greenfield—William Clark, Zerah Coy, Allen S. Glenn, John T. Harris, Oliver Jones, William D. Jones, Lewis S. Jones, Henry F Jones, James E. Lyons, Cyrus Padelford, James S. Palmer, Mark R. Trumbull, Benjamin B. Van Steenburgh, William N. Williams.

Hadley—Charles Palmer.

Halfmoon—Isaac V. Irish, Hiram Richardson.

Moreau—John Davis.

Northumberland—Henry J. Davis, David Galusha.

Providence—James C. Barber, Michael McWilliams, Terence McGovern, Francis Soule.

Saratoga—William Armstrong, Lyman Jones, George W. McCreedy, Warner Van Valkenburgh, Hamilton White.

Saratoga Springs—George S. Reno, William H. Hall, M. Kelly, J. A. Lee, J. Johnson, James Burke, John A. Brown, James Green, Harvey A. Jones, Peter Lyons, David McNeil, Daniel G. Wager,

Stillwater—John Williams, John W. Arnold, Lucian Annable, Archibald Brown, William H. Quackenbush, Tunis W. Quackenbush, Andrew Sterrett, David A. Thompson, James Farrell.

Waterford—James W. Parks, Duane Shepard, Charles N. Kilby.

Wilton—Walton W. French.

Albany—Peter Hogan.
Troy—John D. Rogers.
Utica—Amos J. Carter.
Syracuse—Thomas Jennings.
Poughkeepsie—Matthew Vassar.
Fort Ann—Charles M. Nicholson.
Illinois—John Hegeman.
Boston—Charles E. Fitcham.
Hartford, Ct.—Daniel A. Ayers.
Vermont—Darwin A. Forbes.
California—Abram Reynolds.

Place of enlistment not known—J. Butler, W. H. Barlow, A. H. Bennett, W. Bell, I. Burke, H. Cole, P. H. Cary, E. Cooper, D. S. Corbin, C. Cutler, J. Douglas, J. H. Dubois, T. Dolan, C. Fink, W. Findlay, R. W. Graham, J. S. Gardner, B. E. Harrison, H. Hannum, D. B. Hiller, D. Howard, B. F. Harkness, E. F. Holley, R. E. Harris, W. Jackson, E. Kenyon, A. V. H. Lansing, H. P. Lapham, P. Lager, J. McClear, M. McCarty, B. R. Mabee, J. Mullaney, C. McLane, A. Nelson, M. Ostrander, N. Patchin, A. J. Powell, C. P. Pearson, W. S. Rooney, C. A. Smith, J. Shadwick, H. Selden, D. Selden, J. Spadholts, P. Sanders, D. J. Sill, A. Straight, W. W. Selden, D. B. Stringer, S. St. John, J. B. Tarbell, I. H. Van Decar, N. B. Weed, J. S. Weed, C. B. Williams, W. H. Waldron, J. H. Williams, J. Warriner, C. Weitz, C. Wortz, C. West, M. Weatherwax, J. J. Wright, V. West.

Historic Notes

FOR nearly a decade before the village had a corporate existence, the history of this locality was being faithfully recorded from week to week in the columns of the first newspaper in Saratoga County, published at Court House Hill by Increase and William Child, pioneer editors of the country weekly newspaper in the state of New York.

Copies of Ballston newspapers in the possession of the author, going back to 1798, three years prior to the incorporation of the village, and completed files of the Journal since 1847, comprise a history of local events which would fill several large volumes. From this great mass of information we have selected items of different periods relating to various topics, which may give some impressions of the village life through the years. While some have been copied verbatim, many of the items have been necessarily re-written in condensed form for this work. Although the name of the paper quoted does not, in many instances, indicate the place of publication all the items are from papers published at Court House Hill or in Ballston Spa.

The Saratoga Register, published at Court House Hill, in its issue of August 22, 1798, contained the following:

"Married.—On Sunday evening last, Mr. David Maker, of Stillwater, to the amiable Miss Eliza Sweet of Milton."

"Communication.—Greenfield, Aug. 14, 1798.—In the field of Elisha Carpenter, Esq., of this town, were pulled this day a number of ears of corn, completely filled out and fit for roasting, which were planted on the 14th day of June, on a piece of land which was never plowed, and the said corn was never hoed."

In the same paper, issued June 6, 1808, we find the following:

"Advertisement—Money is said to be the root of all evil; nevertheless the Post-riders are willing to run the risk of receiving their dues from the subscribers for the past two quarters."

The post-riders delivered the newspapers in those days at the homes of subscribers.

Margaret Cornell, who had been advertised by her husband as having "left his bed and board," indignantly retorts:

"He should have showed that he had a bed, for this is the first time I ever knew that he was the owner of one. Indeed, I am now inclined to believe that he alludes to one of mine. He says I have left his board. Now he never provided any board except now and then a scanty meal of potatoes. As for running him in debt he need have no apprehension, as no one will trust him where he is so unfortunate as to be known."

Even in those early days politicians did not hesitate to misrepresent their opponents, a practice which has come down to the present time. Joshua Burnham wrote a private letter in 1806 which fell into the hands of the opposition, who published it broadcast in a handbill. The letter was also published in the Saratoga Register as showing the methods used by the Republicans to defeat their Federal opponents. Here is the letter:

"Lansingburg, April 23, 1806.

"Sir.—Mr. T——— has been up from Albany, and says the county ticket nominated at Troy must not be elected. At all events he says keep F—— out if possible. You must therefore turn out at the election all day. It won't cost much. Eat your breakfast late and you can stand it till the poll adjourns. Do all you can against F——. He is our mark. Tell the people that he makes cards out of old Bibles and then carries them to Claverack, and gets folks drunk, and then cheats them. Tell them it is he that makes those awful lights in the north. The ignorant Dutchmen will believe it. Tell them everything published in the handbills about F—— is true—stop—no, that won't do. There are some of them that recommend him that are really true. These you must say are all lies. Lest you should be confounded, mind this rule. Everything in his favor say it is a lie; everything against him say it is true, and you can prove it by D—— L——. D—— is good at that you may depend. In short tell them F—— has done everything except shoot his daddy.

"Yours in haste,

"Mr. J—— V——. "J—— B——."

The Saratoga Advertiser of September 23, 1806, contains the advertisement of Epenetus White, Jun., & Co. They offer for sale dry goods, groceries, wines and liquors, hardware and crockery, "and almost every other article suitable for the country." Epenetus White opened the second store in the village prior to 1800.

The same paper has the following: "For Sale—A healthy middle-aged negro wench and child. For particulars enquire of the printer."

The paper has four pages of five columns each, and ten columns are filled with advertisements. There is not a single line of local news, and the latest foreign news is dated July 24, and the news from New York September 13.

In the Independent American of Nov. 4, 1813, Moses Williams offers a reward of *one cent* for the apprehension and return of an apprentice to the shoe-making business.

In the same paper of Nov. 16, 1813, the London news is dated Sept. 21. News from Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 4, and New York, Nov. 4. This is in striking contrast to the present day of ocean cables and the telegraph.

The announcement of a proposed banking institution appeared in the Independent American of December 7, 1813, as follows:

"Notice is hereby given that a petition will be presented to the Legislature of the State of New York at the next session thereof, to incorporate the names of the persons whose names are hereunder written, and their associates, into a body corporate, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, for banking purposes, under the name of the 'Saratoga Bank.' Signed—James Merrill, Epenetus White, Jr.,

SANS SOUCI HOTEL IN 1880. ERECTED IN 1803. DEMOLISHED IN 1887.

Archy Kasson, Amos Allcott, Hugh Hawkins, Nicholas Low, John K. Beekman, Joel Lee, William Stilwell, William Sears, Michael Middlebrook, John Bennett, William W. Morris, Reuben Westcot, Ziba Taylor, Miles Beach, Ashbel H. Andrews. Dated Ballston Spa, Nov. 26, 1813."

The bank was not established, and the village had no bank until twenty-five years later. The large capitalization of the proposed bank is very noticeable, but not more so than the amount of the capital stock of the Company which erected the factory on Gordon creek, in later years known as the oil cloth factory. In the Independent American of December 21, 1813, the following advertisement appeared:

"Notice is hereby given that the subscribers, on behalf of themselves and their associates, incorporated

under the name of the 'Ballston Spa Company,' for the purpose of carrying on the business of manufacturing woolen, cotton and linen goods, intend to apply to the Legislature of the State of New York, at their next session, for leave to extend the capital stock of said Company to eight hundred thousand dollars. Signed, Nicholas Low, Benjamin Peck. Dec. 16, 1813."

It is quite evident that the men of early times projected large business enterprises.

In its issue of May 17, 1815, the Independent American has a notice that Friendship Lodge, F. & A. M., will celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist in Ballston Spa, June 24. Rev. Joseph Perry to make the address. Mr. Perry was the Rector of Christ Church, and in the possession of the writer is a printed copy of an address by Mr. Perry on a similar occasion in 1810.

The following notice also appears: "Royal Arch Chapter will meet 1st Monday in June, at *one* p. m."

August 14, 1816, Samuel Smith announces in this paper that he has removed his tailor shop "two doors east of the Ballston Spa book store, between those celebrated mechanics, Langworthy and Williams." It is not known whether the latter gentlemen shared with Smith the cost of the notice.

The People's Watch Tower of May 13, 1818, says that "Galway Lodge, No. 267, of Free and Accepted Masons, will celebrate the festival of St. John the Baptist on June 24, 1818."

The Gazette of Dec. 9, 1823, contains the advertisement of "Elias Baldwin, black and *white* smith."

In its issue of Dec. 13, 1825, the Gazette has an editorial on the election of John W. Taylor as Speaker of the House, and in Oct. 26, 1824, announces that Hon. John W. Taylor will deliver the address at the sixth annual exhibition of the Saratoga County Agricultural Society.

The Gazette of December 16, 1823, contained the following notice relating to a banking institution for the village:

"The subscribers for themselves and associates, hereby give notice that they intend to apply to the Legislature of this State, to grant them a charter for a Bank to be entitled The Saratoga County Bank, with a capital of $50,000, to be located at the village of Ballston Spa, with the restriction that the stockholders' individual property shall be holden for the redemption of its bills; to be enforced by summary process. Ballston Spa, Dec. 8, 1823. Alpheus Goodrich, James Merrill, Harvey Loomis, Epenetus White, Joel Lee, Isaac Rowland."

A visitor to Ballston Spa in 1823 gave expression to his sentiments in the following rhyme:

"No more shall your youths and your maidens
Droop quickly and sink into the grave;
And middle-age father, and perish,
With nothing to help or to save;
The angel of death stands astounded,
All folded his raven black wings,
Disheartened, amazed and confounded
At the wonderful Ballston Springs."

Albany, Saratoga &
BALLSTON SPA
Mail Post Coach
WILL continue to run the remainder of the fall and winter seasons in the following order, viz.
Leave Saratoga and Ballston Spa every day—leaving Saratoga at 8 o'clock, and Ballston Spa at 9 o'clock, A. M.
Leave Albany every day at 9 o'clock, A. M.
For seats apply at J. Palmer's Montgomery Hall, Saratoga, and at Kidd's Mansion House, Ballston Spa. In Albany, at Rice & Baker's General Stage Office, No. 526, South Market street, opposite the Eagle Tavern.
HARVEY LOOMIS, Ballston Spa,
RICE & BARKER, Albany,
PROPRIETORS.
Albany, October 1826 7

An Old Advertisement.

In the Gazette of June 27, 1837, the Troy, Ballston and Saratoga railroad advertised two trains each way every day, and one Sunday train.

Ballston Spa had a military organization as early as 1848, the following call appearing in the village papers in October of that year: "Attention, Company! Notice is hereby given to the members of the 'Ballston Spa Citizens Corps,' that they will meet at the drill room, in George Thompson's building, on Thursday evening of each week, at seven o'clock precisely. John J. Lee, Secretary." Samuel

H. Cook was Captain, and George Babcock drill master. The Company was composed of the leading young men of the village.

The Journal of October 19, 1847, speaks in poetic strain of the pretty "factory girls" of sixty years ago:

THE BALLSTON GIRLS.

"Sweet Ballston girls,"—said Ben one day,
While they were gaily spinning—
"Upon my honor I will say,
"You all are deuced winning."
"If I but had a fortune now
As ample as my will,
Not one of you, henceforth, I vow,
Should work within that mill."

"Ah!"—said a pretty blue-eyed miss,
A fair and rosy creature;
With lips that seemed but made to kiss,
And love in every feature—
"With such a will there are but few,
But easier said than done;
Yet this I'd do, if I were you,
Begin to-day, with *one*."

At the close of the political campaign the Journal stirred up the Whigs in its issue of October 24, in this style, printed in bold type, double column:

"Whigs of Saratoga rouse to action! Remember that a full vote is a Whig victory. The enemy is already in the field; but we can't be whipped when we all pull together. Two weeks from to-day the battle ends. Whigs, are you ready for action? Be active, be vigilant, and a glorious victory will be your reward."

The "tariff" was an issue in the political campaign of 1848, and the Journal strongly advocated a high protective tariff. In its issue of October 31 we find the following:

"A Good Hit.—A poem called the 'Devil's New Walk,' in imitation of Coleridge's well-known lines, just published in Boston, has the following stanza:
'He went into the mill where the wheels were still,
And the keys in the hands of the sheriff,
And he laughed to think how the operatives
All voted against the tariff.'
"This is true to the letter. Very many are so wedded to party that they will cast their vote for men who are in direct opposition to their own best interests! Alas! how strange!"

In the month of September, 1849, John B. Gough, "the young apostle of temperance," as he was called in the village papers, was in the village for three days, at a temperance meeting. He made several addresses to audiences that crowded the Baptist Church, with its large galleries, to the doors.

The Journal of Jan. 9, 1849, states that a proposition has been made to conduct the Saratoga waters to New York City in glass pipes, and that it was to be submitted to the Legislature.

THE FORTY-NINERS.

News of the discovery of gold in California in 1849 was not long in reaching Ballston Spa. The Journal of February 6, 1849, says:

"Last week eight gold thirsty fellows left this region for California; their names are as follows: George W. Lee, Seymour R. Chase, Joseph De Forest, Nathaniel M. Clark and Callender Beecher of this village; Stephen Anson and John Collamer of Malta, and Stephen G. Rowland of Milton. All of them are young men of enterprise, and we hope they may realize all they anticipate in the way of gathering the gold dust. Who will start next in pursuit of the pot of money at the end of the rainbow we will not pretend to predict."

The trip in those days was across the great plains of the west, and through the passes of the Rocky Mountains in "prairie schooners," or by water to Panama, across the Isthmus overland, and again by water to San Francisco. The Ballston party went by the water route. Whether their thirst was quenched or not, history does not disclose.

In these days of marvelous engineering achievements, it is curious to read the following from the Journal of October 7, 1851:

"The Hudson River Railroad.—This great enterprise is now completed. When first talked of, it will be remembered, it was considered impracticable, besides, if it could be completed at all, it was considered by many as a wild speculation, and would only end in ruin, as far as capital was concerned, to all engaged. Trains leave New York at 8 o'clock and arrive in Albany at 12.50."

In its issue of November 25, 1851, the Journal said: "N. Reed Vandenburgh, while working on a new wagon shop on Middlebrook street, fell thirty feet with a scaffold on which he was working, and was severely injured, but is on the way to recovery." Mr. Vandenburgh became the leading contractor and builder in the village. January 4, 1892, while employed as contractor in the erection of the new Methodist Church, he met with a similar accident to that which occurred forty-one years before, falling from a timber on which ice had collected, to the cellar of the church, a distance of about eight feet. He

died three days later as the result of his injuries.

September 21, 1852, the Journal published in its column of poetry, which was a feature of the weekly paper at that time, and for many years after, the following:

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."

"The following is said to be the latest fashionable negro melody, and is making a great sensation. The author's name is unknown." Then follow the three verses beginning—"Way down upon the Suwanee river."

That part of the village north of the Blue Mill has been known as "the north-end," "Brooklyn," and "north-side," but the Journal of May 8, 1853, discloses a new name, and at the same time compliments one of the citizens in this manner: "No part of the village is more prosperous than the north end, by some called "Suttersville," over which our enterprising townsman, William W. Arnold, is the Mayor. Three years since north of the Blue Mill there was now and then a dwelling, but since it has fallen into Mr. A's hands a small village has sprung up at once." The significance of the name "Suttersville" has passed into oblivion.

The following appeared in the Journal of March 21, 1854: "Mechanics' Association.—We understand a meeting of mechanics of our village has been held for the purpose of taking preliminary steps for the formation of an Association for their protection as it regards the prices for labor." The Association was formed, and was the first labor organization in the village.

From the Journal of February 20, 1855:

"An attempt to Rob.—On Wednesday evening last, as Isaac Fowler, Esq., cashier of the Ballston Spa Bank, was about passing from the street into his dwelling, (he lived over the Bank,) just returned from Albany, where he had been making exchanges for the Bank, he was knocked down by some ruffian who came up behind him, and an attempt made to wrest the carpet bag from him, which contained about $8,000 in bank bills, and $7,000 in checks. The blow not being of sufficient force to render the cashier entirely unconscious, he cried out for assistance, whereupon the villain 'took to his heels' and fled. It appears that the person who attempted this robbery had an accomplice, who was in wait for him with a horse and cutter upon High street, which carried him beyond the corporate limits in a hurry. This was a bold undertaking, and is a case well calculated to caution those who carry much money with them. At any rate a Colt's revolver is not very inconvenient to carry."

On the evening of June 28, 1855, "The Flower Queen, or Coronation of the Rose," a cantata by George F. Root, was produced by the young people of the village, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Colby, in the Court House. The court room was crowded, and the bright and pretty music was so admirably rendered, that a general request was made for its repetition, and the cantata was repeated July 3. December 15, 1892, this beautiful cantata was again given in the Sans Souci opera house, under the direction of Miss Mary Lee, who, as a young girl, took part in the cantata in 1855. It was given for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church. The opera house was crowded to the doors, and many were unable to gain admission. So does history repeat itself.

An editorial in the Ballston Democrat of January 26, 1855, asks this pertinent question in its headline: "Is there a Democratic party?"

We presume that two weeks later Mr. Seymour Chase, the editor of the Democrat had lost all interest in the matter for the time being, this notice appearing in the Democrat of February 16:

"Married—In this village on the 5th inst., by Rev. L. W. Hayhurst, Seymour Chase to Julia Matteson, both of this village.

And may the *Chase* in whose embrace
She is now so fondly *locked*,
Preserve her *form* from adverse storm,
And ne'er in *pi* be knocked. DEVIL."

A few months later Mr. Chase returned vigorously to the political question. Hear him in the issue of the Democrat of July 13, in the same year:

"Democrats! to the stump! Let us have a stump campaign and stump nominations this fall. It is time conventions were done with; and let the people in their aggregate capacity, nominate their own candidates. A mass nominating convention will be the thing. It is time the pettifoggers were 'crushed out'—it is time somebody besides party hacks placed candidates before the people. Let the word be—'Good men, and Stump Nominations'."

The same paper of June 22, 1855, says: "The McMaster house, one of the relics of Ballston's former renown as a watering place was destroyed by fire yesterday."

The following is a *fac simile* of the State ticket used at the general election in Saratoga county in 1855. It was printed at the Journal office. Compared with the present blanket ballot, it is a curiosity, and is entitled to preservation as a matter of political history:

STATE.

For Governor,
Myron H. Clark.
For Lieutenant Governor,
Henry J. Raymond.
For Canal Commissioner,
Henry Fitzhugh.
For Inspector of State Prisons,
Philip H. McOmber.
For Representative in Congress,
James M. Andrews.
For County Clerk,
Latham Coffin.
For County Treasurer,
Orville D. Vaughn.
For Superintendent of the Poor,
Abraham Middlebrook.
For Justice of Sessions,
Ezra Westcott.

The local news was frequently given in unique and racy style. The following is from the Democrat of July 27, 1855:

"BALLSTON MAINE IAC ITEMS."

"Dennis Geoghegan was found as 'drunk as new rum,' or 'tight as a drum,' or as 'cocked as an old musket,' or 'three sheets in the wind,' or 'how come you so?' or 'stewed,' or 'pickled,' or 'oblivious,' or 'saturated with rye,' or 'infused with the anti-Maine law sentiment;' it matters not which term be used, for he was thoroughly drunk, from cranium to boots,—drunk inside and outside, and all over drunk. Consequently he was nabbed, taken before the justice, and sent up to Prof. McOmber's to thaw out, where he spent Monday night. On Tuesday he was fined $10, which was finally paid, and Dennis went on his way rejoicing, promising never again to try a hand-to-hand fight with King Alcohol.

"John McMann was found slightly elevated by Constable Ford, and nabbed and taken before Justice Brown. As the law does not define specifically the point where sobriety leaves off and drunkenness commences, and as the said John was able to stand up, he was discharged by the Justice; but, as we understand, had the 'revel out,' and spent the night in the Village Pound, where he was 'caged' by some mischievous boys."

The Democrat took umbrage at the action of the Baptists, and in its issue of July 11, 1856, said:

"The Saratoga Baptist Association traveled out of its legitimate duties in the resolution which it adopted on political subjects at Burnt Hills. We have an idea that it had better pass resolutions that Paul was a loafer and member of the 'slave oligarchy,' and not an apostle of Christ, because he delivered up the slave Onesimus to his master Philemon. This political meddling of the church in politics has no good tendency."

The resolutions referred to were opposed to slavery, advocated the repeal of the fugitive slave law, condemned the brutal assault upon Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts, in the Senate Chamber at Washington, by Senator Brooks of South Carolina, on May 22d of that year, opposed the extension of slavery into the free states and territories, and closed by saying: "All men friendly to the interests of freedom and good government are called upon by all they hold dear and sacred, to unite their strength at the ballot box for the maintenance of the rights of conscience and of free speech." Similar resolutions were adopted at the Baptist Associational meetings in 1854 and 1855, but doubtless escaped the argus eyes of the Democrat. The resolutions in each instance were presented by Rev. H. L. Grose, then pastor of the Baptist Church at Galway village, who a few years later, became the editor of the Ballston Journal, and often measured editorial swords with Mr. Chase, of the Democrat.

The Journal of January 10, 1860, said: "Mr. John C. Booth will lecture at Waverly Hall in this village on Thursday evening, January 12, on "The life and exploits of Joe Bettys," the noted Tory and spy of Ballston. The lecture was the account as written for Mr. Booth's history. This story of Joe Bettys, the only complete account of his life ever written is given elsewhere in this history.

The "Sons of Malta" was a secret order that existed throughout the country for a few years. The editor of the Journal was not favorably impressed with the society, and said in the issue of January 12, 1860: "We understand that an organization of the Sons of Malta is about being perfected in this village. The institution is a 'purely benevolent'

one, and therefore has no 'majority' ambition. Those who value their character should read the article of the Troy Times on that institution, before joining." The order held its meetings in the Armory for two or three years, when it ceased to exist.

In 1863 the price of news paper went to 25 cents per pound. The Journal was compelled to reduce its size, and advance its price. The Journal establishment bought tons of old paper and books, paying eight cents a pound. This stock was sold to the paper mills for from ten to twelve cents.

In February, 1873, a very successful musical convention, continuing for one week, was held in the Baptist Church, with Prof. L. O. Emerson, of Boston, as conductor. There was a chorus of one hundred voices, and at the two public concerts Mrs. B. F. Baker, Miss Isabel Lee, Prof. T. C. Bunyan and Mr. Poindexter were the soloists.

A few years later a musical convention was held in the Baptist Church, with Prof. William F. Sherwin as conductor. There was a large chorus, and at one of the concerts "Concone's Mass in B Flat" was rendered. The quartet on this occasion were Miss Isabel Lee, Mrs. E. F. Grose, Mr. H. F. Cary and Mr. E. F. Grose.

The finest musical event in the history of the village were the two concerts of the Ballston Musical Association in the Methodist Church in May 29 and 30, 1888, under the direction of Prof. J. E. Van Olinda, of Troy. The soloists were Miss Louise Baldwin, of Boston, Miss Jeannie Lyman and Mr. Thomas Impett, of Troy, and Miss Hattie Holley, of Troy, accompanist. Blaisdell's orchestra of Boston, and the chorus of 125 voices completed the array of talent. Neils W. Gade's cantata, "Psyche," was magnificently rendered by soloists, chorus and orchestra, to an enthusiastic audience which filled the large church.

THE ASIATIC CHOLERA.

This terrible scourge of the Eastern countries made its first appearance on the American continent at Quebec, in the early summer of 1832. At Montreal its ravages were appalling, and the epidemic soon appeared in Plattsburg and Whitehall. This occasioned great alarm at Ballston Spa and also at Saratoga Springs, and the season was probably the poorest either village ever experienced.

Active measures were immediately taken in this village to protect it from the awful disease. A public meeting of the Trustees was held at the Court House June 22nd, 1832, at which the following preamble and resolutions were adopted and ordinance passed:

"Whereas, That dreadful scourge of mankind called spasmodic cholera, which has raged for some years upon the Eastern continent, and ravaged some of the fairest portions of the earth, spreading terror, destruction and death wherever it goes, has at length reached our shores, and is now raging at Quebec, Montreal and other Canadian towns and villages, having been brought over to this country by emigrants from Ireland, thousands of whom are now swarming through the Canadas, and some strolling off through the United States, carrying with them that awful pestilence and spreading it far and wide throughout the land.

"And whereas, It is satisfactorily established that the disease is of a contagious nature; that quarantine regulations are useful to prevent its introduction, and that the utmost cleanliness in our dwellings, our yards, our shops and our streets and alleys, as well as our persons, and temperance in our habits are useful in checking the malignity and progress of the pestilence, by securing the human system against a predisposition to the disease.

"Therefore, be it ordained that P. H. McOmber, Rowland A. Wright, Dr. Samuel Freeman and Dr. Eliphalet St. John be a board of health for the village, to confer with the board of health at Saratoga Springs, and they are hereby authorized to adopt and enforce such measures as they shall think proper to secure our village from the introduction and spread of the dreaded pestilence."

A Vigilance Committee of fifteen was also appointed which had authority to enter all places in the village at any time for examination, and it was their duty to examine all buildings, cellars, yards, streets, alleys, drains, and vaults daily, and to compel them to be kept clean and pure; to examine all foreigners and persons from infected places that entered the village, and to order their removal from the village. The members of the committee were Moses Williams, Harvey Loomis, James M. Cook, Samuel S. Spear, Hiram Middlebrook, Andrew Watrous, Archibald Speir, Dr. E. St. John, Aaron R. Pattison, Dr. Samuel Freeman, Joseph Jennings, Jonathan S. Beach and Abraham T. Davis.

So thoroughly did the boards of health and the vigilance committees perform their duties, that although the scourge was appalling in fatal results in Albany, New York and else-

where throughout the land, not a single case occurred in this village, or in Saratoga Springs.

"OLD TROPHY GUN."

The village is in possession of an old cannon captured from Burgoyne at the battle of Bemis Heights, which through the years is frequently mentioned in accounts of Fourth of July celebrations and other public observances, as "the old trophy gun." Later on the irreverent youth of the village gave the old cannon the euphonious title—"Old Betsy"—a name which has clung to it to the present day. It has been dismantled for many years, but should be properly mounted and given a permanent resting place at the base of the soldiers' monument on Low street. Civic pride should accomplish this result at an early day.

Early in the war of 1812, Elder Elisha P. Langworthy, Joel Lee, Judge Thompson, Sanbun Ford, Joshua B. Aldridge and others contributed to a fund to purchase a cannon to celebrate the American victories. Elder Langworthy went to Albany, and on making his errand known, the State authorities made a gift to the village of the "trophy gun." Elder Langworthy used so much of the fund as was necessary, to have the gun properly mounted, and to purchase a plentiful supply of ammunition. When the gun was ready, "Elder Langworthy drove his own team to Albany and brought the 'trophy gun' through the forest to Ballston. The welkin resounded with its loud boom last Independence Day. The gun is used to herald the news from the war, and is heard for miles around, bringing the people from all directions to hear the news, and Elder Langworthy is one of the foremost to assist upon such occasions."

AN OLD BELL.

The Albany Journal of June 3, 1893, speaking of an old bell brought from Holland in 1635 and hung in the belfry of the old "Stadt Huys" on the northeast corner of Broadway and Hudson avenue, said:

"For nearly one hundred and sixty years it was rung on all public occasions, and to summon legislators, lawyers and judges to their duties in the rooms below. After the old State House was demolished the bell was placed in the cupola of the new capitol, where it hung for many years. At last it was taken down. What became of it is somewhat uncertain; it is believed that it hangs in one of the churches at Ballston Spa."

A Ballston correspondent of The Saratogian writing to that paper under date of June 9, quotes the article mentioned above, (which had appeared a few days before), and says:

"This old relic referred to is now in the belfry of the Episcopal chapel on High street, opposite Church avenue. The bell was brought from Albany and placed in the Episcopal church at Ballston Center the last of last century. A new church was built in Ballston and the bell was removed here. Later a church was built near the corner of Court and Front streets, and here the old bell did service for many years. A new Episcopal church was built corner of High street and Church avenue, and for several years this old bell called the people to worship. A few years ago a larger bell was purchased and placed in the belfry of the new Episcopal church, and the old bell brought from Holland in 1635 now calls the children together for their Sabbath school exercises each Sunday in the Episcopal chapel opposite the church on High street. Ever now and then the history of the old relics of the State terminated in our beautiful village."

A very pretty piece of sentiment, but historic truthfulness compels us to state that it is entirely incorrect, although it has been accepted as a fact by some residents of the village. The old bell which now hangs in the tower of the Episcopal Chapel was presented to Christ Church of Ballston Spa by the old Dutch Reformed Church of Albany, after the church at Ballston Centre had been taken down and re-erected on Front street in this village. The bell was made in 1774 for the German Church in Albany. What has become of "the old bell brought from Holland in 1635" we know not; we only know that it has never hung in the belfry of any church in Ballston Spa.

MME. ALBANI.

Miss Emma Lajeunesse, who, as Madame Albani, became one of the world's greatest singers in grand opera, assisted by her sister Cornelia, gave a concert in old Waverly Hall on the evening of November 19, 1863. The Journal spoke very highly of the beautiful voice of the young girl, then in her fourteenth year, and prophesied a great career in the musical world for the young singer. Miss Lajeunesse, with her sister and father were

at this time residing in Saratoga Springs, and for several evenings had been singing at a Catholic fair in St. Mary's Church in this village. Her singing was received with so much favor, that Mr. Lajeunesse announced a concert in Waverly Hall. It was the first appearance of Miss Lajeunesse on the concert stage, and she was enthusiastically greeted by an audience which filled the hall. It was the first public success of one who in later years was to delight all Europe, as well as all America with her marvelous voice.

Mr. Lajeunesse was a musician of considerable ability, but in very moderate financial circumstances. In conversation with the writer he expressed his deep regret at his inability to give to his daughter the musical advantages which her talent deserved, saying: "My daughter Emma has a most beautiful voice, and some day, in the grand opera, she will be famous in this country, and in France, and all over Europe, if she can have the chance."

Soon after the concert in this village, Miss Jajeunesse was heard in Albany, which resulted in a wealthy lady of the capital city sending her to Europe for a musical education. Her first appearance in Europe, in grand opera, some three years later, was a great triumph, which was repeated time and again for many years on both sides of the water. She assumed the name "Albani," in honor of the Albany lady who gave her "the chance." A year or two before his death, Mr. Lajeunesse, the proud father of the great singer, said that he should always remember the kindness of the good people of Ballston, and that "my daughter Emma Albani will always be grateful for the encouragement she received at her first concert."

THE GREAT FRESHET.

The greatest freshet in the history of the village occurred October 4, 1869. The Kayaderosseras and Gordon creek rose to great height, the Red Mill dam and the Hawkins dam went out, the bridge over Gordon creek at Bath street was swept down the stream, and lodging against the bridge on Milton avenue, a dam soon formed, flooding all the lower part of the village. Milton avenue, on "the flats," was more than two feet under water, and row boats were employed to take people to their homes. When the Blue Mill dam was built in 1830, it was predicted that on account of its great height it would not withstand the force of the water, and during the hours of this freshet, with the water a foot in depth pouring over the dam, a very general fear prevailed that the dam would go out, entailing an enormous loss of property. But Hiram Middlebrook built the dam strong and true, and it bravely withstood the mad rush of the waters, and stands to-day, after three-quarters of a century, apparently as strong as when built. The old Blue Mill bridge on Milton avenue, about fifty feet below the dam, and the longest and largest single stone-arch bridge in the county, was undermined and badly damaged, a portion of the south abutment being carried away, taking with it a lad of eleven years, Clarence Edwin Foster, of Bloodville. His body was recovered a day or two later on the meadows a mile east of the village. The property loss exceeded $100,000. In repairing the damages, the stone bridge and the two wooden bridges over Gordon creek were replaced with iron bridges, at a considerably higher grade. Since that time no serious flood has been experienced in the village.

In February, 1896, twenty-six years later, a period of remarkably warm weather, for that season of the year, raised the water in the Kayaderosseras to a very unusual height, breaking up the heavy ice, which came down the stream, carrying away bridges and dams, and destroying property to the value of $125,000. The mills in the village were damaged to some extent, and portions of the two dams of the lower Blue Mill pond went out, the property loss in the village amounting to about $10,000.

THE OLD WELL.

An amusing story is told in connection with the old well on Court House Hill, which in early days was in the south-east corner of the court yard. David R. Harlow was entertaining a friend at his home, a rod or two distant from the well. A heavy snow had fallen, and the drifts were unusually deep. Harlow said to his friend, "that drift out yonder," pointing in the direction of the well, which was entirely snowed under, "is thirty feet deep." His friend questioned the statement, and a

wager of five dollars was made. Harlow told his nephew, "Lou" Harlow, to get some poles and measure the drift. "Lou" got three long poles, lashed two of them together, and taking his position directly over the well, proceeded to push the pole through the drifted snow. Down, down the pole went, (into the old well), and it became neccessary to attach the third pole. As the pole continued to descend, the astonished visitor called out, "You win the money!" and the stakes were paid over to Harlow. It was some weeks later before Harlow's friend learned the joke that had been perpetrated.

LEGEND OF BALLSTON LAKE.

"There is an Indian legend that this lake was called by the dusky men of the woods 'neutral ground,' and warriors who had sought by all the cunning that belongs to the Indian race to take the life of their enemies, if by chance they should meet upon the shores of this lake, the calumet of peace was lighted, and while they remained by its waters they were friends. Thus like the Cities of Refuge of olden time, the red men of the woods held this lake in the same light."

The water of the lake was so cold and pure it was called by the Indians "sweet water."

THE MOURNING KILL.

This stream runs through the town of Ballston, and a short distance east of the village of Ballston Spa, until it empties into the Kayaderosseras. "Tradition speaks of a severe battle between the Iroquois and Algonquin tribes, at the headwaters of the stream known as the 'Mourning Kill.' This name was applied by the early residents owing to an annual custom kept up even so late as 1770. The adjacent Indians would assemble on the ground of the old battle on the anniversary of the event and celebrate mourning rites for those who had fallen in the fight. Hence the name of the creek."

THE MOURNING KILL, EAST HIGH STREET.

THE TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

A history of Saratoga county, published some ten years ago, in its account of the war with Spain says, in referring to the organization of the Saratoga Citizens Corps: "No National Guard company existed in Saratoga county previous to 1877." This is an error which should be corrected. Early in the '50's

the 29th Regiment, New York State Militia, was organized. There were ten companies, of one hundred men each, all of them from Saratoga county, with Regimental headquarters at the Armory in this village, which was erected for the Regiment in 1858.

The annual "general training," which extended over three days, was quite an event in this village. The regimental camp for many years was on the Cooper lot, where St. Mary's cemetery is now located, and later on the plains, where the base ball grounds are at present situated. The regiment was fully equipped with tents, and all the paraphernalia of war, and the regular army discipline and drill was enforced.

The sunrise and sunset guns boomed out over the valley every day; the soldiers were seen on our streets, while the regimental and company drills were watched with interest by large crowds of civilians. The fascination of brilliant uniforms and the glittering bayonets was strong to the Young America of the town.

Thursday was the great day at "general training," and on this day in 1860, Major General John E. Wool, a veteran of the Mexican war, was the inspecting officer. Again, in 1865, Governor Reuben E. Fenton, with his full military staff, gorgeous in uniform and decorations, was present to review the "gallant twenty-ninth."

The Ballston Cornet Band was the regimental band, and it was well worth while to hear Luther Irish roll out the reveille, the retreat and the tattoo, at sunrise, at sunset, and "lights out." Col. Calvin T. Peek was in command of the regiment for many years, and on his resignation in 1867, Adjutant John D. Wait was made Colonel. Under a change in the organization of the State Militia, the regiment was disbanded in 1870. "No National Guard company in Saratoga county previous to 1877!" Read the foregoing, Mr. Historian.

A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

The Presidential campaign of 1860 was the most striking event in the political history of the village. Party spirit ran high, and Democrats and Republicans vied each to outdo the other in enthusiasm for Lincoln or Douglas. The Republican "Wide-Awakes" numbered more than two hundred, and the Democrat "Little Giants" were equally strong. Public meetings were held very frequently, and torch-light processions were of almost nightly occurrence.

The Wide-Awakes wore black capes and the Little Giants adopted yellow capes. Ballston also had a company of "Rail-Splitters," composed of fifty boys of from twelve to fifteen years. They wore white waists, blue caps and red sashes, and carried beetles over their shoulders.

These political clubs visited many towns in the county, and took part in mammoth torch-light processions in Albany, Troy and Schenectady.

The largest political procession ever seen in Saratoga county was that which paraded the streets of Ballston Spa on a beautiful October evening about ten days before the election. Republican "Wide-Awake" clubs were present from Albany, Troy, Schenectady, Mechanicville, Waterford, Stillwater, Saratoga Springs, Fort Edward, Sandy Hill, Glens Falls and Amsterdam.

Illuminations were numerous all over the village, and as the great parade passed through the streets, torches gleaming, bands playing, and cheering all along the line, party enthusiasm rose to its highest pitch.

A favorite marching formation was known as "the rail fence." In single file the men marched in a zig-zag line from one side of the street to the other. Looking down Milton avenue on this occasion, the marching host as far as the eye could reach formed one long rail fence of gleaming torches. The line reached from High street the entire length of Milton avenue, through South street, and far up Maple avenue in Bloodville. Thirty-five hundred torches were in line, besides officers and bands of music.

The largest meeting the Democrats ever held in the village was on July 25, 1860, to welcome Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, one of the Democratic candidates for President, and the "Little Giant" of the Northern Democracy. Senator Douglas was to speak in Saratoga Springs, and promised to make a short speech in Ballston on his way to Saratoga. When the eminent Senator stepped upon the platform

in front of the Sans Souci, he was greeted with great enthusiasm by several thousand people. Senator Douglas was introduced by Judge Scott, and began his speech by saying: "I came not to make a political speech but to see this pleasant town, and to visit the spot where my grandfather erected his house seventy years ago." He then spoke at some length on questions of the hour, and in closing introduced his friend, Governor Foote, to the cheering crowd.

The Senator, with some of his party, then visited the house built by his grandfather, Benajah Douglas, then a military school, and from there was driven to Saratoga. This was the only time Senator Douglas ever stopped in Ballston. The statement that some of his boyhood days were spent with his grandfather here, is an error. His father was also named Stephen Arnold Douglas, and it was he who lived here, as a boy, with his father.

This was the second Presidential campaign of the Republican party, organized in 1854, and the election of Abraham Lincoln was hailed with supreme satisfaction by the adherents of that party in Ballston Spa. That the threat of the South to secede from the Union would be carried out, was not, at the time, considered possible.

Celebrations

THE village of Ballston Spa, during the one hundred years that are past, has had many celebrations commemorative of historic events. An account of the more notable ones which preceded the magnificent Centennial Celebration of the present year, is given in this chapter.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

The semi-centennial celebration of American Independence in Ballston Spa, on Tuesday, July 4, 1826, surpassed in interest and pageantry all the Fourth of July observances in Saratoga county that preceded it, or have followed it.

The day was ushered in by the national salute from the "trophy gun" captured from Burgoyne, and the ringing of the old bell hanging in the steeple of Christ church, (which was made for the old Dutch church in Albany in 1774, and presented by that church to Christ church in 1817), and the other village bells.

The most prominent feature of the great procession was a car forty-two feet long and fourteen feet wide, named the Temple of Industry. This was intended to represent the industrial development of the country during the first half century of the nation's life. The car was drawn by thirteen yoke of oxen, representing the thirteen original States, each yoke in charge of a driver clad in a tow frock, and all under the command of Jacob Near, of Malta. Upon the car were thirteen representatives of that number of branches of the mechanical arts plying their vocations. Among them were the printer striking off semi-centennial odes, the blacksmith with his anvil keeping time with the music, the cooper making more noise than all the others, and Mr. William Van Ness, who while the procession was moving, made a pair of shoes for the president of the day, Hon. Samuel Young, then Speaker of the Assembly, to whom they were presented with an appropriate address and response.

Another interesting feature of the procession was a band of thirty-seven Revolutionary veterans, who kept step to the music in a way that indicated they had not forgotten their military discipline. Jeremiah Pierson, a soldier of the Revolution, held aloft the Stars and Stripes, Lemuel Wilcox another Revolutionary veteran bore a standard inscribed "Declaration of Independence," and another veteran, John Whitehead, bore a standard inscribed "Constitution of the United States." Another attractive feature was the corps of Union Cadets, composed of two fine-looking and admirably drilled uniformed companies from Union College, one commanded by Captain Knox and the other by Captain Jackson, the senior professor in that institution. The corps was under the command of Major Holland, the registrar of the college and a veteran of the war of 1812.

The procession moved through the principal streets amid the salvos from a brass six-pounder captured from Burgoyne, to the Baptist church, which stood at the corner of Science and Galway streets, on the lot now occupied by the railroad water-tank. Hon. Samuel Young presided. Prayer was offered by Rev. Eliphalet Nott, President of Union College. The Declaration of Independence was read by Anson Brown, a young lawyer of the village, who died while Representative in the Twenty-sixth Congress. The oration was delivered by Hon. John W. Taylor, then Speaker of the House of Representatives. His closing remarks were addressed to the Revolutionary soldiers, who arose in a body, and the scene was quite dramatic. Mr. Taylor said:

"WARRIORS OF THE REVOLUTION.—'You are in the midst of posterity.' You stand in our ranks the honored survivors of a noble band. Thousands of your companions have gone before you to receive the patriot's reward. We recognize in you the

representatives of departed and of living heroes. The shades of Montgomery and Mercer rise to our view. Your memories supply the place of many a long lost comrade. Suppress those tears. Your silvered locks are crowned with a nation's blessing. You we congratulate, on the manifold causes of gratitude and joy which have passed before us. To have contributed in your measure to their accomplishment is distinction enough to satisfy the highest aspirations of a patriot's bosom. We rejoice that your lives, and the life of him who in glowing language stated our wrongs, and framed that declaration of independence so manfully sustained by your youthful valor, have been prolonged to see the glory of our country, and to honor its Jubilee. Sanguine as were the hopes which in early life marshaled your array, and placed you in the front of the battle, no imagination could then conceive, no fancy dared then portray, the national prosperity your eyes have witnessed. Gathered as you must be, one by one, to the great congregation of your companions in arms, you will descend to the tomb sustained and encouraged by these consolations—that though man dies his country lives; that your bodies, resting from their labors, will repose in a land of freedom; and that your sufferings and achievements will be held in remembrance by a grateful people, until earthly distinctions shall be lost in the brighter glory of celestial existence."

The Union Cadets dined at the Sans Souci Hotel, and the toasts were at the Village Hotel. Among the regular toasts were the following: "John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Charles Carroll of Carrolton, the surviving signers of the Declaration of Independence. As the measure of their days, so is that of their fame—overflowing." When this sentiment was uttered it was not known that since the sun had risen on the morning of that day two of those illustrious patriots had been numbered with the dead, leaving Charles Carroll the sole survivor.

By previous arrangement the cadets marched into the room, when the president of the day addressed them in highly appropriate and complimentary terms. Major Holland responded, reading from a manuscript in the familiar handwriting of Dr. Nott:

"GENTLEMEN,—In behalf of the corps I have the honor to command, permit me to tender their acknowledgments for your polite attentions. If our humble exertions to aid in the duties of the day have met the approbation of the patriotic assemblage it is the highest gratification we can receive. In retiring, permit me to propose as a toast: The county of Saratoga—its hills, monuments of valor; its springs, resorts of fashion; its hamlets, signalized by patriots and statesmen."

Union College and its distinguished president were complimented by two of the alumni as follows: By Thomas Palmer, Esq.: "Union College: Crevit, Crescit, Crescat." By Anson Brown, Esq.: "The president of Union College: Dignum laude virum musa vetal mori."

If these sentiments were not duly appreciated by all present, the following was expressed in such plain, unmistakable English, that there was no doubt as to its meaning. By Edward Watrous, Esq.: "The Legitimates of Europe: May they be yoked, poked, and hopped, cross-fettered, tied hand and foot, and turned out to browse on the pine plains of old Saratoga."

The committee of arrangements consisted of James Merrill, David Cory, William Clark, John Dix, Jerry Penfield, Charles Field, Alexander Russell, Robert Bennett, Roswell Herrick, David F. White, George W. Fish, Hiram Middlebrook, Joseph Barker, David Herrick, Sylvester Blood, Samuel R. Garrett and Abraham Middlebrook. The general manager of this superb celebration was Lyman B. Langworthy, then sheriff of the county.

FOURTH OF JULY IN BALLSTON SPA AND SARATOGA SPRINGS IN 1840.

The Fourth of July in 1840 was celebrated by the Sunday Schools of this village and Saratoga Springs uniting in an appropriate observance of Independence Day. At ten o'clock in the forenoon, the Baptist Presbyterian, Methodist and Episcopal schools of Saratoga Springs assembled at the Baptist Church, where a procession was formed, and they marched to the Presbyterian Church, where appropriate exercises were held. The church was crowded, and many were unable to gain admission. Prayer was made by Rev. Joshua Fletcher, pastor of the Baptist Church; Gideon M. Davison read the Declaration of Independence, and Rev. Albert Chester of the Presbyterian Church delivered the address.

The services at the church being concluded, the procession re-formed, and marched to the grounds of Chancellor Walworth, where the schools from Ballston Spa, several hundred in number, awaited them, having arrived by train. Refreshments were served for the entire company in the grove which surrounded the residence of the chancellor.

The schools of both villages then marched to the railroad station, and were conveyed to Ballston Spa in two special trains. Arriving in Ballston the schools again formed in line and marched to the Baptist Church at the head of Front street, where they listened to a very happy address by Rev. Norman Fox, pastor of the Church. Rev. Daniel Stewart, of the Presbyterian Church assisted in the services.

The children then walked to the residence of Mr. Stephen Smith, now the residence of Hon. H. J. Donaldson, on Pleasant street, where refreshments were again served, after which the Saratoga schools returned home by train, reaching Saratoga about five o'clock.

MONUMENT TO SOLDIERS OF MEXICAN WAR.

The first soldiers' monument in Ballston Spa was erected in memory of the volunteers from this village who lost their lives in the war with Mexico, 1846-48. The monument was dedicated on Wednesday, October 25, 1848, with appropriate ceremonies, a heavy rain preventing the dedication on October 19, the anniversary of the surrender of Burgoyne.

The procession formed in front of the Village Hotel on Front street at one o'clock, in the following order: Colonel Thomas Low, Marshal; the Ballston Band; the Saratoga Independent Artillery; the returned veterans of the war, William H. McKittrick, Seneca Shepard, Nicholas Armstrong, Andrew Armstrong, Hiram Ford, Wilber Palmer, and James Porter. Leading this file of war scarred veterans was William McKittrick, bearing aloft our country's banner, wreathed in mourning. Then followed relatives and friends of the fallen heroes; the village clergy; Franklin Lodge, F. & A. M.; Kayaderosseras Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Eagle Fire Company, No. 1; and a large number of citizens. The procession marched to the shop of O. D. Vaughn, and from there escorted the monument to the village cemetery, where it was erected with simple ceremonies, the prayer being offered by Rev. Norman Fox.

The monument is a white marble obelisk, and beneath the slab was deposited a basin hermetically sealed, containing the subscription book with the signatures of all those who aided in its erection, and a short biographical sketch of each of the volunteers.

From the cemetery the procession returned to the Court House, where an eloquent oration was delivered by M. K. Booth, Esq., orator of the day. The oration was a magnificent effort, and the speaker was warmly congratulated. There was also singing by the Ballston Spa Glee Club.

The following are the inscriptions on the monument:

"Erected by the citizens of Ballston Spa and vicinity October 19, 1848." On the east side: "James Schermerhorn of Co. F. 9th Reg't, U. S. Inf'ny. Born at B. Spa July 1, 1827. Died at Pachuca, Mexico, March 9, 1848. Contreras, Churubusco, Moline Del Rey, Chapultepec." West side: "Ransom B. Pettit, of Comp'y H, 2d Regt. N. Y. Volunteers. Born at B. Spa June 25, 1827. Died at Puebla, Mexico, Oct. 19, 1847. Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo." North side: Alvin Luther of Comp. A, 1st Regt. U. S. Art'y. Born at B. Spa June 4, 1810. Died on the Rio Grande April 4, 1848." South side: "Hiram Smith of Comp'y E, 3d Regt. U. S. Dragoons. Born at B. Spa Aug. 8, 1830. Died at Perote, Mexico, Oct. 23, 1847."

GREAT TEMPERANCE CELEBRATION.

One of the greatest gatherings ever known in the village was the temperance celebration on Tuesday, August 21, 1849. Eight thousand people were present. There was a parade in the forenoon of Sons of Temperance, Rechabites and Daughters of Temperance. Col. Thomas Low, of Charlton, at the time sheriff of the county, was Marshal, and the procession marched through the principal streets, led by the Troy Arsenal U. S. Band, to the grove in the north part of the village.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. William J. Clark, the founder of the first temperance society in the United States, at Moreau, in April, 1808.

Addresses were delivered, and dinner served to the temperance organizations, in the grove. The Journal said: "We can safely say this was the greatest temperance celebration ever witnessed in this or any other section of country."

THE SABBATH SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

[From the Ballston Journal, Sept. 18, 1847.]

The Sabbath School Celebration, which took place in this village on last Thursday, as we predicted, was a splendid and interesting gathering. About nine o'clock in the morning, the scholars from the different schools in the county were thronging our streets, and the thousands of little bright faces, wreathed with smiles and glowing with innocence, told that it would be an interesting

time. About ten o'clock the procession formed (the largest ever witnessed in this county) and marched to the grove, where as many as could be were seated. The meeting was then called to order by the Rev. Mr. Starks (Methodist) of this village. The exercises were then opened by prayer by the Rev. Mr. Chester of Saratoga Springs, and singing by the choir, assisted by the thousands of scholars present.

The audience was then addressed by the Rev. Mr. Miller, of Troy, who was followed by the Rev. Mr. Warren of the same place. Both of the speakers gave very appropriate addresses, much to the satisfaction of all present. After singing again by the choir, (which, by the way, was performed admirably) the audience was again addressed by John B. Gough the distinguished temperance lecturer. His reputation as a speaker is too well-known to need a passing remark by us. The number present on this occasion was estimated by good judges of such matters to be 10,000. It was the largest gathering ever witnessed in this part of the state, and certainly the most interesting sight we ever witnessed. The occasion we have no doubt will long be remembered by parents, teachers, pupils, and all present, and will be the means of giving a new impetus to the Sabbath School cause.

MASONIC.

Franklin Lodge, No. 90, and the Masonic fraternity of this vicinity celebrated the centennial anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into the fraternity, on Thursday, November 4, 1852, by a public procession in the afternoon, followed by an address, and a grand ball in the evening at the Village Hotel (now Medbery's). The Masons appeared in the full regalia appertaining to their rank. The Ballston Cornet Band furnished the music, and the streets were crowded while the procession was passing. The committee in charge of the celebration was composed of Brothers Abel Meeker, Henry White, George Babcock, John J. Lee and N. H. Husted.

THE STATE ARMORY—LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE.

[From the Ballston Journal, Aug. 31, 1858.]

"The corner stone of the State Armory in this village was laid on Thursday last, with appropriate ceremonies. The line formed on High street, headed by Col. C. T. Peek and the staff officers of the Twenty-ninth Regiment, Captain Hammond's company, the Peek National Guards, of this village, and Captain Vandenburgh's company, the Black Plumed Riflemen, of Stillwater. The Ballston Spa Band headed the Peek National Guards, and Drew's Band headed the Riflemen. The procession marched through some of the principal streets of the village, and reached the ground about noon, where Col. Wm. T. Odell, president of the day, made a few well-timed and eloquent remarks, and performed the ceremony of laying the corner-stone, depositing in the stone a list of the military officers of the State, of this Division and Brigade; also a list of the officers and members of the 29th Regiment, the civil officers of the county, and the village of Ballston Spa, together with a copy of each of the village papers.

"After the ceremonies at the Armory were concluded, the citizens and military repaired to the grove, where John C. Booth, Esq., delivered the oration. It was one of the most eloquent and appropriate addresses we have listened to in a long time, and received the highest praise from all who heard it. Hon. J. M. Cook and Judge McKean were called and made a few humorous remarks, which were received with great applause.

"After the speaking, the military and their guests sat down to a dinner which had previously been prepared, and—well, we will say no more on this subject, for soldiers who have traveled all day know how to manage such matters themselves.

"The day was fine, and the affair passed off very pleasantly. Between two and three thousand persons were present on the occasion."

THE CENTENNIAL FOURTH.

On the fourth day of July, 1776, the Continental Congress sat in session in Philadelphia. Thomas Jefferson had brought in the Declaration of Independence, and despite sharp debate on some minor points, it was easy to see that its unanimous passage would soon follow. It was resolved to announce the event by ringing the old state-house bell, which bore the inscription: "Proclaim liberty to the land: and to all the inhabitants thereof!" The old bellman, accordingly,

placed his little grandson at the door of the hall, to await the instruction of the door-keeper when to ring; and when the word was given, the patriot-scion rushed out, and flinging up his hands, shouted, "Ring, ring, ring."

"And straightway at the signal,
The old bellman lifts his hand,
And sends the good news, making
Iron music through the land.

"How they shouted! What rejoicing!
How the old bell shook the air,
Till the clang of freedom ruffled
The calm-gliding Delaware!

"How the bon-fires and the torches
Illumed the night's repose,
And from the flames, like Phœnix
Fair Liberty arose!

"That old bell now is silent,
And hushed its iron tongue,
But the spirit it awakened
Still lives,—forever young."

The Quaker city was not left to rejoice alone at the new-made freedom of a people. The response from every side secured that freedom, and the spirit of that first Fourth, transmitted from father to son perpetuated it, till, on the one hundredth anniversary the bells rang and the cannon boomed in every place from the Atlantic to the Pacific; from the pine-clad hills of Maine to the blue waters of the Gulf.

The centennial celebration in Ballston Spa on July 4, 1876, was worthy of the occasion. There may have been more imposing and extensive demonstrations elsewhere, but in no place was the celebration entered into with more heartiness and general interest.

Monday evening, July 3, was the most brilliant one ever witnessed in the village. The moon was out in its brightest sheen, as if to add lustre to the magnificent illustrations which were displayed in every street. The numerous and ingenious devices which met the eye drew forth expressions of surprise and admiration from the thousands who passed up and down the streets, taking into view all the splendors which made the night glorious. Referring to the decorations the Ballston Democrat said: "On all sides it was freely acknowledged that our neighbors of the Ballston Journal bore off the palm in the extent and beauty of their illuminated decorations, conspicuous in which was a representation of the "Independence bell" flanked on either side by the "Star of Liberty" and the "Star Spangled Banner."

Among the ringing bells which ushered in the first hour of the nations' second century, was that of Christ Church, noted for its peculiar tone as well as for its history. Previous to 1776 it was the only church bell in the city of Albany, hanging in the tower of the old Dutch Church at the foot of State street. It was made to ring out glad peals in that city on the 19th day of July, 1776, the day on which Albanians first listened to the public reading of the Declaration of Independence. It bears this inscription: "Benj. Whitear—Sharon—in 1774. This bell is made for the high Jermon (German) Church—Albani." By that church it was presented to Christ Church in 1817. In 1826, at the half century, when the Fourth was celebrated here with more pomp and ceremony than ever before, it gave forth its distinctive clang right joyfully amid the sharp sounds of neighboring bells.

At sunrise the national salute boomed out over the village. At ten o'clock the procession was formed, and led by the Ballston Band, marched through the principal streets, dispersing at the Sans Souci.

At half past twelve the assembled thousands gathered in the court yard of the Sans Souci. After music by the band, and singing by a male quartet, prayer was offered by Rev. George W. Brown, of the Methodist Church. T. F. Hamilton, Esq., read the Declaration of Independence. This was followed by the Historical Address by Judge George G. Scott. At half-past three a century tree was planted near the spring at the west end of Front street, at which time Hon. J. S. L'Amoreaux delivered the centennial oration. At five o'clock the ancient and honorable Filibusters entered the town, and their astounding parade added greatly to the renown of other years. In the evening there was a grand display of fire works in front of the Sans Souci.

The Ballston Journal closed its account of the celebration with this prophesy: "Another chapter in the history of our famous village is thus brought to a close. The next centennial chapter will be that of the Fountain City of the World, with its centre at Geyser Springs, and its circumference drawn by a radius of at least seven miles."

SANS SOUCI HOTEL—1804

1807 - 1907

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA

NEW YORK

June Twenty-Second to June Twenty-Fifth

NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVEN

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

Fac-simile of Title Page of the Centennial Programme. The picture of the Sans Souci is printed from the original wood cut made in 1804.

The Centennial

THE village of Ballston Spa was incorporated March 21, 1807, and in commemoration of that event the village trustees held a meeting at "Brookside," the home of Trustee William S. Waterbury, on Thursday, March 21, 1907, at five o'clock in the afternoon.

"Brookside" in 1807, and for many years thereafter, was known as the "Aldridge House." The proprietor, Joshua B. Aldridge, was a member of the first board of village trustees, and the first meeting of this Board was held in this house at five o'clock in the afternoon of June 6, 1807.

Trustee Waterbury had invited the trustees to hold a centennial meeting in this historic place, and promptly at five o'clock, as the village bells rang out the old and rang in the new, and the whistles from every factory proclaimed in shrill tones the beginning of the second century of village life, Village President Irving W. Wiswall called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the board of trustees contain the following record of this historic meeting:

"Adjourned meeting of the board of trustees of the village of Ballston Spa, N. Y., held March 21, 1907, at five o'clock P. M.

"Present: Irving W. Wiswall, president; John Corning, Hugh S. Finley, George W. Miller, Nelson F. Pitts, Leander Spicer, William S. Waterbury, trustees.

"Minutes of meeting held March 21st, 1807, read. President Wiswall said, 'these are the minutes of the last meeting held in this house, and if there are no objections, they stand approved as read.' No objections.

"Continuing, Mr. Wiswall said: 'Before we proceed with the business of this meeting I wish, on behalf of the board of trustees and others to thank our host and hostess for their courtesy in making this meeting possible. We stand in a historic spot, the most hallowed and sacred in the village of Ballston Spa. Can we realize that under this same roof and within the confines of these same walls, the first board of trustees met? A strange thing it is that the first resolution by that board pertained to the same subject as the complex problem that has taken up the attention of the board for several years past; the matter of building sewers and drains.'

"Mr. Wiswall spoke of the fact that the first meeting of the board was held in this house on June 6, 1807, and that the present meeting was held, not in commemoration of the first board meeting, but of the passing of the Act of Incorporation.

"'It seems to me,' remarked the president, 'that this meeting should be but a preliminary of a large celebration, and that the officials and ex-officials present should take some action to properly celebrate the centennial.'

"Mr. Wiswall spoke of the growth of the village in its early history as a summer resort the first in the land, when large numbers of highly notable people came here to spend the summer and drink of the health-giving springs. He also called attention to many interesting things to be found in the book of minutes of the trustees in the early part of the past century, reading a number of selections from the minutes.

"Mr. Waterbury read a number of selections from Fenimore Cooper's 'Last of the Mohicans,' in which he spoke of the village.

"Mr. Waterbury offered the following resolution:

"'Resolved, That the highway in the village of Ballston Spa, beginning on the west side of Charlton street, at the foot of Front street, and leading westerly and northerly to Prospect street, be hereby named and hereafter known as Aldridge Road, in honor of Joshua B. Aldridge, one of the first trustees of the village—elected one hundred years ago, and through whose property the highway was laid.' Adopted.

"Mr. James F. Peckham, the oldest former trustee present, gave some reminiscences.

"Former president, Stephen C. Medbery, called attention to the fact that the second meeting of the board of trustees, when the first ordinance was adopted, was held at the house of his grandfather, William Clark. Former president, Abijah Comstock also spoke in an interesting manner.

"Trustee Miller spoke very feelingly of the honor he felt it to be to belong to the board of trustees at this time, and his high appreciation of the courtesy of Trustee Waterbury and Mrs. Waterbury in inviting the board to assemble at their home.

"Charles H. Grose, a former clerk of the village, and proprietor of the Ballston Journal, made some very interesting remarks.

"Just at this time the telephone rang, and on returning from answering the call, Trustee Waterbury remarked: 'I have just received congratulations to the village fathers from one of the village mothers,' and in explanation he stated that the message was from Mrs. O. D. Vaughn, whose late lamented husband was a trustee of the village in 1852.

"Luncheon was served by Mrs. W. S. Waterbury, assisted by Mrs. I. W. Wiswall and Miss Madelia Waterbury, while little Misses Helen Waterbury and Mary Kerley helped.

"Mr. Miller moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the hostess, saying: 'On behalf of the president and trustees, and others present, we do most heartily thank our hostess, who has so delightfully served us.'

"The meeting was adjourned with the guests personally greeting Mrs. Waterbury, Mrs. Wiswall and Miss Waterbury, in leaving the historic residence after a most delightful time.

"Those present were: President Irving W. Wiswall; Trustees John Corning, Hugh S. Finley, George W. Miller, Nelson F. Pitts, Leander Spicer, and William S. Waterbury; Clerk William H. Sherman; Street Commissioner John S. Ryan; Village Treasurer Charles O. McCreedy, Jr.; village policemen, Chief James J. O'Brien, Officers Terence Buckley and James E. Conner; former village presidents Stephen C. Medbery, Charles O. McCreedy, Sr., Abijah Comstock, Alfred N. Wiley and Thomas Finley; former trustee James F. Peckham; former treasurer Thomas Kerley; former clerk Charles H. Grose; former street commissioner George M. Hoyt; press representatives Arthur Mathers and Benjamin S. Henry of the Journal, Richard C. Anzer, George W. Ralph and William J. Burnham of the News.

"WILLIAM H. SHERMAN, Clerk."

During the meeting Trustee Waterbury said that he was sorry not to have present the only trustee now living who served during the first half century of the history of the village, Stephen B. Medbery. Mr. Medbery expected to be present, but was taken sick and was unable to attend.

Former trustee James F. Peckham said that he remembered the village when it was a rural hamlet, and that he grew up with it and had known most of the public men personally who had been born and lived here. "My grandfather settled here," said Mr. Peckham, "and I, as a boy, have visited this house many times. My grandmother has often told me of seeing the deer come in large numbers to drink at the spring."

Former village clerk Charles H. Grose, proprietor of the Ballston Journal said: "It is very fitting that we should meet under this roof that sheltered the first board of trustees at its first meeting, and it is an interesting coincidence that the present owner of this historic residence should also be a member of the present board of trustees. The Journal is one hundred and nine years old, and in its issue of the week of the incorporation and of the first meeting of the board without doubt called attention to those interesting events. The Journal to-day contains the names of the first board of trustees, and also those of the last, the present board, and I take pleasure in presenting to each member of the board a copy of the centennial number of the Journal."

At the close of the proceedings President Wiswall said that he thought no definite action should be taken at this time in relation to a proper celebration of the centennial, but that he would call a public meeting to be held at Odd Fellows Hall some evening of the next week.

The following call was issued by President Wiswall:

"CENTENNIAL MASS MEETING."

"Pursuant to a resolution passed by the Board of Trustees, and in response to a request made by many of the citizens of Ballston Spa, a meeting of the citizens will be held at Odd Fellows Hall on Friday evening, at 7.30 o'clock, for the purpose of discussing and formulating a plan for a suitable celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of our village.

"It is hoped that the civic pride of our citizens will be stirred to action on this occasion, and that all persons having the welfare of their village at heart will attend the meeting.

"There are but very few villages in the State of of New York that can boast of a hundred years of municipal government. Let us have a celebration, that shall be dignified, impressive and glorious, one in which our fair village shall be honored, and of which our citizens shall feel justly proud.

"IRVING W. WISWALL, *President.*"

CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION.

Pursuant to the call of the village president about two hundred representative men of the village assembled in Odd Fellows Hall Friday evening, March 29. President Wiswall presided and George T. Cunningham was secretary of the meeting.

President Wiswall, in opening the meeting, suggested that the most practical plan and the one best calculated to insure a successful celebration was the forming of a Centennial Association. The meeting adopted the suggestion, and the following committee was ap-

pointed to report By-Laws, and nominate officers: Edward S. Coons, John H. Burke, Charles Coleman, Walter H. Wiley and Charles Schwarz.

While awaiting the report of the committee a general discussion as to the celebration, and the character it should assume was had.

The committee made the following report:

BY-LAWS.

This Association shall be called the Ballston Spa Centennial Association.

It shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer and executive committee, and the president shall be chairman ex-officio of said committee.

Any citizen of the village shall be eligible to membership in the Association.

The object of the society shall be to provide ways and means for a suitable celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the village of Ballston Spa.

The executive committee shall have the general management of the celebration subject to the approval of the Association.

OFFICERS.

President—Irving W. Wiswall.

Treasurer—Thomas Kerley.

Secretary—A. I. Thayer.

Vice-Presidents—Andrew S. Booth, J. S. L'Amoreaux, Stephen B. Medbery, James F. Peckham, Harvey J. Donaldson, Rev. B. J. McDonough, Rev. H. S. Rowe, Rev. J. W. Hegeman, Rev. A. B. Potter, Rev. Arthur T. Young, James W. Verbeck, Thomas Finley, H. H. Ferris, John R. Shepard, William H. Knickerbacker, George H. West, Charles O. McCreedy, Sr., Alfred N. Wiley, E. S. Lawrence, Geo. R. Beach, Horace E. McKnight, Abijah Comstock, Gen. J. B. Babcock, Osgood H. Shepard, Charles P. Rooney, Theodore S. Haight, H. Vassar Haight, Samuel Smith, Frank R. Wilson, D. L. Wood, Henry C. Hale, Braman Ayers, Dr. F. J. Sherman, Dr. J. T. Sweetman, Jr., Dr. Collins, C. W. Eede, William Boyce, Samuel Bowen, John Vandenburg, Charles Jarvis, James A. Burnham, Elmer Kemp, Lester King, George Hoyt, Washington Bentley, William Whalen, Thomas Kelly, D. V. G. Curtis, John Powers, Samuel Gould, William Ryan, Michael Fitzpatrick, George Southcott, James Painter, Sr., Jesse Charboncau, Henry Haight, Magnus Schwarz, Louis Schwarz, Frank H. Brown, Vedder Gervin, Charles L. Brown, Hyman Frank, J. S. Wooley, James Chalice, Arthur Mathers, Charles P. Rooney, Dr. T. C. Royal, Mitchell Stark, C. D. Sickler, Douw F. Winney, William Namack, Dr. J. R. Cornell, Dr. W. H. Tibbetts, Dr. C. E. Foote, A. Schwinler, William Wagar, Beecher Hall, Frank D. Groat, S. C. Shaeffer, Alexander B. Morrison, Fred J. Rooney, Herbert B. Massey, Charles Frerkson, Charles E. Massey, Dennis Manogue, Louis Henry, Simon McCarty, Lacy King, Moses Forbes, William Corning, John Mooney, Albert Van Arnem, William Jones, John McNamara, Richard Cunningham, Dr. Horatio Craig, Charles Massey, Edward Brooks, William Mooney, Thomas Coulson, Tracy Nichols, John Daly, William Burdick, William Dower, Charles Bremer, Charles Baker, Albert Miller, Abijah Warner, Patrick Brady, R. B. Godfrey, Frank Playford, Gilbert McFarland, Frank Larkin, James Haywood, Edward DeCora, James Riley, Patrick Morrissey, Walter Furlong, William Lawrence, Michael Heeney, William Flaherty, Adelbert Armstrong, George Tibbetts, Joseph McKinnon, Dr. J. B. MacNeil, Louis Wait, Michael Sheehy, George Ashton, John Reynolds, C. N. Mead, Christopher Herzog, Frank Cook, David Frisbie, W. A. Ten Eyck, Charles Hall, Luke Bouchard, John Dohig, James Munn, William Cahill, Thomas Dymond, Chauncey Irish, William McCarty, George Webster, W. O. Sweet, Sarsfield Egan, John Lahey, John Hennessy, Michael Griffin, William Furlong, Lawrence Gorman, Louis Guertin, John Mongeau, Michael Fagan, Charles Fortin, Geo. McDonough, Edward Bush, James Kerley, Cornelius Jackson, Thomas Duffy, J. L. Tracy, John O'Brien, John Dower, Henry Lowry, Timothy Driscoll, Terrence Finley, Daniel Kelly, Ray Dennin, John Burns.

Executive Committee—President, Secretary, Treasurer and William S. Waterbury, Hugh Finley, John Corning, George W. Miller, Leander Spicer, Nelson F. Pitts, Stephen C. Medbery, John H. Burke, Frederick J. Wheeler, Charles H. Grose, Edward S. Coons, James J. O'Brien, George West, William H. Quinn, George M. Cook, James E. Conner, Grant Gould, Burton D. Esmond, Daniel Furlong, Frederick H. Beach, W. W. Brown, James H. Humphrey, T. D. Coulson, Charles Foss, R. C. Anzer, C. O. McCreedy, Jr., A. J. Freeman, Charles Coleman, H. C. Westcot, W. J. Aumack, E. F. Grose, George T. Cunningham, G. S. McCreedy, W. H. Wiley, Frank Holmes, Joseph Mason, John N. Hutchins, Paul Kyack, Robert L. Carter, John L. Powers, Frank D. Winney, Michael Sheehy, A. A. Lavery, Irwin Esmond, William Rooney.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held in the parlors of Eagle Fire Company, No. 1, it was decided to hold the Centennial in June, from the 22nd to the 25th. The following committees were appointed to have charge of the several features of the celebration:

Advisory Committee—Irving W. Wiswall, Dr. A. I. Thayer, John H. Burke, Frederick J. Wheeler, Stephen C. Medbery, Andrew J. Freeman, George W. Miller, John Corning, William J. Aumack.

Finance Committee—Stephen C. Medbery, Edward S. Coons, Charles O. McCreedy, Jr., George West, William Rooney, Frederick H. Beach, James E. Conners, William H. Quinn, James H. Humphrey.

Literary Committee—Burton D. Esmond, Edward F. Grose, Walter H. Wiley, William Rooney, William S. Waterbury, A. I. Thayer, John H. Burke, W. C. Anzer, Grant Gould.

Parade Committee—Irwin Esmond, A. A. Lavery,

James J. O'Brien, Nelson F. Pitts, George M. Cook, George T. Cunningham, Daniel Furlong, Charles H. Grose, Hugh Finley.

Home Coming Committee—William S. Waterbury, Robert L. Carter, Joseph Mason, Frank D. Winney, Herbert C. Westcot, Gordon S. McCreedy, William A. Mehan, Michael Sheehy.

Reception Committee—Harvey J. Donaldson, chairman; Judge J. S. L'Amoreaux, Andrew S. Booth, William H. Knickerbacker, Osgood H. Shepard, Horace E. McKnight, George H. West, Stephen B. Medbery, James F. Peckham, Rev. B. J. McDonough, Rev. H. S. Rowe, Rev. J. W. Hegeman, Rev. Arthur T. Young, Rev. A. B. Potter, James W. Verbeck, H. H. Ferris, John R. Shepard, C. O. McCreedy, Sr., George F. Clapp, A. N. Wiley, E. S. Lawrence, F. J. Sherman, Jr., George R. Beach, Abijah Comstock, Gen. J. B. Babcock, Charles Rooney, Theodore S. Haight, H. Vassar Haight, Samuel Smith, Frank R. Wilson, Thomas Finley, Edward L. Smith, Roland W. Smith, Henry C. Hale, R. B. Castree, Hugh Whalen, Henry Shaeffer, George T. Smith, Charles Coleman, Leander Spicer, W. O. Sweet, Charles Van Buren, Paul Kyack, Francis Holmes, John L. Powers.

Ladies' Committee—Miss Mary Moore, Miss Rhoda Thompson, Miss Sarah L. Sargent, Miss Mary Leach, Mrs. Frances L. McLean, Mrs. Samuel Smith, Mrs. Andrew Smith, Mrs. Thomas Finley, Mrs. W. H. Knickerbacker, Mrs. George E. Knox, Mrs. H. A. Shaeffer, Mrs. Charles Foss, Mrs. J. F. Hennessey, Mrs. W. S. Waterbury, Mrs. Emily West, Mrs. H. J. Donaldson, Mrs. Walter H. West, Mrs. George C. Beecher, Mrs. Annie Aldrich, Mrs. James W. Verbeck, Mrs. George West, Jr., Mrs. W. H. McKittrick, Mrs. F. H. Beach, Mrs. Hugh Whalen, Mrs. Theodore S. Haight, Mrs. H. Vassar Haight, Mrs. Geo. H. West, Mrs. John H. Burke, Mrs. Dennis Manogue, Mrs. F. J. Sherman, Mrs. H. E. McKnight, Mrs. Emma W. Sherwood, Mrs. Mary L. Diehl, Mrs. James H. Humphrey, Mrs. C. W. Eede, Mrs. A. J. Fenton, Mrs. A. H. Van Arnum, Mrs. A. A. Hemphill, Mrs. J. S. Wooley, Mrs. H. Frank, Mrs. H. H. Ferris, Mrs. W. O. Sweet, Mrs. S. A. Egan, Mrs. J. T. Sweetman, Jr., Mrs. F. H. Brown, Mrs. C. E. Fitcham, Mrs. Thomas Kerley, Mrs. S. C. Medbery, Mrs. H. J. Medbery, Mrs. W. J. Redmond, Mrs. Frank C. Herrick, Mrs. Nathaniel Montrose, Mrs. Gordon S. McCreedy, Mrs. J. J. Tracy, Mrs. Lacy King, Mrs. N. F. Pitts, Mrs. Myron F. Simmons, Mrs. Frederick J. Wheeler, Mrs. Seth S. Whalen, Mrs. Irwin Esmond, Mrs. John Corning, Mrs. E. J. Briggs, Mrs. William Corning, Mrs. D. L. Wood, Mrs. Samuel Gould, Mrs. George W. Gardner, Mrs. Henry Crippen, Mrs. William H. Quinn, Mrs. Rush H. Young, Mrs. Vedder Gervin, Mrs. Peter A. Gilchrist, Mrs. Michael Heeney, Mrs. John H. Westcot, Mrs. P. Platt Williams, Mrs. Margaret Powell, Mrs. Eliza Cunningham, Mrs. B. D. Esmond, Mrs. H. A. Mann, Mrs. J. F. Peckham, Mrs. N. R. Vandenburgh, Mrs. E. S. Coons, Mrs. J. S. L'Amoreaux, Mrs. George R. Beach, Mrs. S. E. Estabrook, Mrs. E. F. Grose, Mrs. C. H. Grose, Mrs. Fred Armer, Mrs. James P. Kelley, Mrs. Ellen Carlin, Mrs. Louis Schwarz, Mrs. O. D. Vaughn, Mrs. George C. Valentine, Mrs. Francis J. Kline, Mrs. W. J. Burnham, Mrs. George T. Cunningham, Mrs. Neil Gilmour, Mrs. J. A. Raymond, Mrs. Leander Spicer, Mrs. Charles Frerkson, Mrs. J. R. Cornell, Mrs. Jane Sherman, Mrs. Matthew Bunyan, Mrs. J. J. Mooney, Mrs. R. N. Garrett, Mrs. F. J. Rooney, Mrs. Arthur Mathers, Mrs. William Feeney, Mrs. F. D. Groat, Mrs. William Clements, Mrs. B. L. Cole, Mrs. Walter Furlong.

THE PROGRAMME.

The following admirable programme was arranged for the four days' observance of the centennial:

Saturday, June 22.—Afternoon: Athletic sports on the Fair Ground, under the auspices of the Health and Strength Club of Ballston Spa. Evening: Home welcome and re-union on "Mohican Hill," at Brookside.

Sunday, June 23.—Commemorative services and reunions in each of the churches, with sermons and addresses by former pastors.

Monday, June 24.—Fraternal Day.—All society and lodge rooms, the churches, the school buildings, fire engine houses and court house to be open to visitors from two to five o'clock in the afternoon.

A grand concert by Fairman's Boston Band from 2.30 to 4.30 p. m., at the speakers' platform on High street.

Monday evening.—Meetings in the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Churches and in St. Mary's Hall, with brief addresses by former Ballstonians, and vocal and instrumental music.

Tuesday, June 25.—Centennial Day.—President of the Day, Hon. Jesse S. L'Amoreaux; Marshal of the Day, Gen. John D. Babcock, U. S. A., (retired.)

At ten o'clock in the forenoon a Grand Parade of military and civic organizations and the public schools.

At half past two o'clock in the afternoon, the Centennial Mass Meeting on High street, to be announced by the ringing of the Revolutionary bell in the tower of the Parish House.

Tuesday evening.—Grand display of Pain's fireworks, and a grand concert by Doring's band.

THE CELEBRATION.

SATURDAY—OPENING DAY.

The amateur athletic meet in the afternoon was a most auspicious opening of the Centennial Celebration. The Strength and Health Club arranged an excellent program, and it was carried out with fine spirit.

The High School events were won by the Ballston Spa school with 23 points; Cambridge second with 21 points; Argyle third, 17 points; Berlin, 14 points; Glens Falls, 5 points. In the half mile run, Arner Eede of

Ballston Spa broke the High School record, making the distance in 2.17.

Louden Field Club easily took first place in the club events with 32 points; Columbia A. C., of Schenectady, second, 11½ points; Saratoga Y. M. C. A., third, 10 points, with only one man entered, Spratt winning both events in which he took part; Strength and Health Club, Ballston Spa, 5 points; Os-sa-hin-ta Club, Ballston Spa, 3 points; Turn Verein, Schenectady, ½ point.

Hammer throw—Safford, Argyle, first; Ashton, Cambridge, second; Mitchell, third. Distance, 132 ft.

Broad jump—Won by Miller, of Berlin; McNaughton, Argyle, second; Ashton, Cambridge, third. Distance, 19 feet, 3 inches.

Discus throw—Won by Ashton of Cambridge; Phillips, Ballston, second; Ellis, Argyle, third. Distance, 100 ft.

A. A. U. CLUB EVENTS.

Quarter mile—Won by Donahue, of Louden; Whealey, Troy, second; Pearsau, Columbia, third. Time, 51 4-5 seconds.

Broad jump—Wood, Strength and Health, first;

MILTON AVENUE.

The summaries were as follows:

HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS.

100 yard dash—Won by Cole, of Ballston; Miller, Berlin, second; McNaughton, Argyle, third. Time, 11 seconds.

High jump—Won by Huggins, of Cambridge; Phillips, Ballston Spa, second; Miller, Berlin, third. Height, 5 ft. 6¾ in.

120 yard hurdles—Bedell, of Ballston and McNaughton, of Cambridge, tied for first place; Miller, Berlin, third. Time, 17 4-5 sec.

Shot put—Ashton, of Cambridge, first; Hull, of Berlin, second; Mitchell, Cambridge, third. Distance, 40 feet, 1 in.

Half mile—Won by Eede, Ballston; Henry, Argyle, second. Time, 2.17.

440 yard dash—Won by Liddell, Glens Falls; Cole, Ballston, second; Hull, Berlin, third. Time, 56 2-6 seconds.

Bissell and Donahue, of Louden, second and third. Distance, 20 ft., 7 in.

Mile run—Won by Burlingame, of Louden; Scrafford and Meagher, of Columbia, second and third. Time, 4.45½.

100 yard dash—Won by Spratt, of Saratoga; McNaughton, Argyle, second; Merrill, Louden, third. Time, 10 4-5.

Pole vault—Won by Donahue, of Louden; Cole, Os-sa-hin-ta, second; Roberts, Turn Verein and Forbes, Columbia, tied for third place. Height, 9 ft., 9 in.

Mile relay race—Won by Louden; Columbia, second.

Shot put—Won by McNamee, of Columbia; Lonergan, of Albany, second; Ashton, Cambridge, third. Distance, 45 ft., 9 in.

220 yard dash—Won by Spratt, of Saratoga; Merrill, Louden, second; Ottman, Columbia, third. Time, 23 4-5 seconds.

OFFICIALS OF THE MEET.

Referee, William Rooney; starter, Fred Rooney; timers, Frank Winney, Geo. West, A. A. Lavery, D. V. G. Curtis; judges at finish, E. Geiser, J. F. Kilmer, J. L. Gorman; field judges, Jos. King, Geo. McDonough, E. S. Coons, W. Case, Valentine Baker, Samuel Taverner; official scorer, Harry Robbins; announcer, Hiley Armer; clerk of course, Walter Rooney; assistant clerk of course, W. Pickering.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The re-union on "Mohican Hill," at Brookside, fairly eclipsed any event of a similar character known in Ballston's history. The grounds were splendidly illuminated under the direction of Superintendent John Ryan, of the electric lighting company, and the thousands who visited the large plateau which crowns the hill, were delighted with the beautiful scene which there presented itself, as well as charmed with the fine music of Leader Holcomb's Silver Cornet Band of Glens Falls.

At the entrance to the path which winds its way up the hill there was a blaze of light from a large illumination which read: "1807—Ballston Spa Centennial—1907," and under neath was a large crayon picture representing "Uncas," the famous Last of the Mohicans. Hundreds of electric lights were used in the lighting of the grounds, and the scene will never be forgotten by those present. The home-coming re-union was unique in character, and a conception worthy of the occasion.

CENTENNIAL SUNDAY.

Services of a commemorative character were held in all the churches. At the Catholic, Methodist and Episcopal churches, historical sketches were read by the pastors. (A complete history of all the village churches will be found in the history of the village, elsewhere in this volume.)

The services were largely attended, and former pastors and old-time residents were cordially welcomed.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

At the morning service, Miss Annie Dorward, daughter of a former pastor, sang very sweetly a solo entitled "Face to Face."

Just before the sermon Mr. C. H. Grose read the following letter, prefacing the reading by these remarks:

"Rev. William O. Holman, D.D., was pastor of this church from 1862 to 1865, a little more than three years, and during the stirring times of the civil war. Some of you who are present this morning will recall with grateful memories his very successful pastorate. He now resides in Rockland, Me. Mr. E. F. Grose sent him an invitation to our centennial, and in reply has received a very interesting letter, portions of which I will read to you. The letter is written in a bold, steady hand, which shows no evidence of advancing age. My only regret is that Dr. Holman is not here to speak to you with that same charm of manner and eloquent speech which he possessed in such an eminent degree. Dr. Holman writes:

Rockland, June 19, 1907.

Dear Friend Grose: Your letter was a grateful surprise both to me and my wife. Our memories of Ballston Spa and the dear old church are vivid and happy. Times without number we have talked over the three years we spent there, and recalled the many friends we made there, and wondered who, and how many of them might still be living. Your father was a man of more than ordinary and diversified talents, whose experience in the ministry was often of service to me as a very young minister. That was one of the happiest Sabbaths of my life when, while I was baptizing others, your father joined me in the service, and baptized your brother Howard, and your sister Elizabeth.

Of my old parishioners I was very fond, and though I was a strong Republican and defender of "the war for the union," and many of them were not, there never was any unpleasantness between us on that account. They loved me so well and enjoyed my ministry so much that they bore with me on all questions upon which we differed, even when I made war speeches, not excepting that Sunday night speech, just before the draft. Indeed, I recall the Bloods, the Noxons, the Millards, Mr. Wiley and others who were strong Democrats, with as much pleasure to-day as the Garretts and others who were such staunch Republicans. I often wonder how we all got on so famously and so happily, without a single jar during those exciting days. Certainly God was with us; blessed us with peace among ourselves as a church, and granted us precious revivals of religion notwithstanding all the distractions of the civil war. I was glad to hear that so many are still alive to remember me affectionately as I do them. Rev. David Tully and I were especially warm friends. He was many years my senior but years made no difference between us, and differing creeds not a bit. The Methodist minister was my next door neighbor at one time, and he was a kindly soul—Fox was his name if I remember aright. George Worthington, a very gifted and genial young man, was the Episcopal clergyman. I thought he would make his mark in the world, and I was not sur-

prised when a few years since I learned he had been made a bishop of one of the western states. You remember when we built over our meeting house, and how proud we were of it, when we rededicated it after spending some $5,000 on it. I raised the money myself by subscription. The contributions came freely, though the times were hard. I am glad you have a new house of worship now, though I am sure you cannot have any better times than we had in the old one. They were blessed days.

How well I remember, and how lovingly, my immediate predecessor in the pastorate, Rev. William Groom—a man of extraordinary intellect, a profound thinker, a royal preacher, a most devoted pastor and lovable character. That I was able in any degree to fill his place is a matter for which I have always been grateful. How, too, I reverenced the Elder Norman Fox, as I have since honored his son and namesake, though he never was pastor at Ballston Spa. Well, I must stop—so many memories come thronging around my heart that I cannot write them.

God bless the dear old church over which it was once my joy to be pastor, and which still has a large place in my heart and prayers.

And now I must sorrowfully say that it will be impossible for me to be with you in your centennial observances. I am just recovering from the severest illness of my life, a siege of pneumonia which carried me so low that several times it was thought I was about to pass away. Confined to my bed and room for over ninety days, I am now able to be about, and almost daily I walk and ride out, but would not dare to come so far in my present weakness. Again and again I have wished I might since your letter came. Mrs. Holman joins me in love and good wishes. With loving regards to you and yours,

W. O. Holman.

Rev. William T. Dorward, of Stelton, N. J., a former pastor of the church, preached the morning discourse from 1st Corinthians, xviii: 10, "By the grace of God I am what I am."

At the evening service Rev. W. T. C. Hanna, pastor of the church eighteen years ago, preached an inspiring sermon, his subject being "Christ is all in all."

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

At the morning service in Christ Church the Rector, Rev. J. W. Hegeman, read the following letter from Bishop Worthington:

New York, May 12th, 1907.

It gratifies me exceedingly to have the assurance which your kind note contains, that the good people of Christ Church, Ballston Spa, after these many years hold me in cordial remembrance. I treasure the memory of the happy relations existing between us during the brief period of my first rectorship. They were very patient with my youth and inexperience. How long ago it seems! Doubtless many who were my fellow laborers in the parish and whose sympathetic loyalty secured any success attending my ministry there, have entered into the rest of the children of God.

It is with unfeigned regret, my dear Brother, that in thanking you and your vestry for the polite invitation to be your guest on the twenty-third of June and preach on the interesting occasion referred to, I must reply that other engagements, which as they are named you will observe, cannot be deferred, will prevent me from accepting.

My diocesan school closes in June, and I expect as usual to be in my diocese, not alone to preside at the graduating exercises and to preach the Baccalaureate sermon, but to attend the annual meeting of various trusteeships at which our diocesan caucus requires my presence; and after my return from the west I have made two engagements here, which like the others cannot be deferred.

May I ask you to remember me most cordially to the wardens and vestry, and seeking for you and the parish the divine blessing. Believe me,

Faithfully yours,

G. Worthington.

Rev. Dr. J. Montague Geer was the preacher at this service. He is a son of the late Rev. George Jarvis Geer, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, in New York City. Dr. Geer prefaced his sermon by speaking of the pleasure it gave him to accept the invitation of the rector to attend the centennial and be his guest. He said:

"I am here because this is my birthplace and I am proud of it. I am also here because it was my father's pleasure and privilege to minister during the years 1845 to 1852 to this parish. He had a great love for many of the people of this parish and I have learned that that love was returned by the people of Ballston Spa. When I received the invitation, I felt that I should be ashamed not to honor my father's memory and my birthplace, by letting other matters interfere with my coming." Dr. Geer spoke of the progress that had been made since his father came to the parish and mentioned a singular incident that happened when he first came to the parish. It appeared that the church had been let by the trustees to a traveling company of players in which to give a performance. That contract was quickly cancelled for if it had not been there would soon have been a vacancy in the rectorship."

Dr. Geer preached an able sermon on "The Importance of the Religion of Jesus Christ."

At the evening service George Foster Peabody, of Lake George and New York, gave an address. Mr. Peabody is a prominent layman of the church and greatly interested in the education of the people of the south, not only the colored people, but whites of the mountain regions. His address was largely

along the line of education, not only in the south, but also in the north, where back in the country they appear to have little interest in life. He gave many pathetic incidents showing the need of a larger outlook for these people, that they might have a more abundant life.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The pulpit was draped with the Stars and Stripes, and beneath the memorial window were the national colors. About the pulpit were tastefully grouped a profusion of ferns, daisies, apple blossoms and other early flowers.

A large congregation was present at the morning service to listen to the former pastor, Rev. Dr. A. R. Olney, whose pastorate of twelve years was one of the most successful in the history of the church.

Before the sermon, pastor Arthur T. Young read the following letter from Rev. Dr. Tully, who is living at Media, Pa. Dr. Tully is more than ninety years of age, and altho retired from the ministry, teaches a large Bible class every Sunday.

"Rev. A. T. Young:

"My Dear Brother—I extend to you and the good people of Ballston Spa my warmest greetings, and I wish I could be present on the 23d instant, and call to remembrance the former days. I am specially happy in paying my respects to the present residents of the beautiful town of Ballston Spa, so young and fair as a centennarian. It fills me with delight that the churches are taking such an interest in her celebration. The churches, with all their imperfections, are still the salt of the earth. If these churches had been in the cities of the plain in the time of Lot the cities would have remained to this day. I rejoice that the civil authorities among you had the wisdom to ask the churches to unite in the celebration. I shall pray for the peace and prosperity of Ballston Spa, on the 22d-25th days, inclusive, 'The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord be gracious unto you, the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace.'

"The Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa was under my care as pastor from October, 1856, till the autumn of 1866. It was small and not very harmonious. We were providentially brought together by my classmate and predecessor, Rev. Nathaniel B. Klinck, who had fallen on the icy street and broken one of his limbs. He invited me to come and preach and administer communion. After the morning service, the friends of the pastor asked me to preach a peace sermon in the evening, which I did, from Eph. vi:11, 12. It was a carefully prepared sermon which I had preached to two warring churches at Windsor, N. Y. The peace did not last many months, for the pastor resigned and went to California. They gave me a unanimous call at $700, without a parsonage, and a fine field for much hard work. Mr. Philip McOmber, a good elder, being sheriff and jailor, gave me the use of the jury room for a study when the court was not in session. There was not a house to rent in town. After a careful survey of the field by pastoral visitation, I organized the forces for work. A midweek prayer-meeting was started, and a ladies' society. Both were successful. The ladies' objective was a parsonage, for Mr. Samuel H. Cook had said to me, 'We may as well have no church as be without a parsonage;' and I replied, 'We can soon get one.'

"The parsonage was bought and paid for in six months' time. We next started two mission Sunday schools, one in a boardinghouse near Mr. Cook's cotton mill on the flats; and the other at Factory Village. Mr. Cook became the superintendent of the one near the mill, for which he afterwards built a frame chapel for its Sunday home, near the center of the town. I superintended the one at Factory Village, taught a Bible class, and preached a brief sermon in the afternoon of the Sabbath. This gave me three services on the Sabbath, but I was young and strong, and I enjoyed the work, for in those days I hardly ever knew what it was to be tired.

"The work went on gloriously. Conversions were frequent. In 1857 the church was greatly quickened and revived. Mr. Samuel H. Cook was one of the converts, and that meant much for the Presbyterian Church in Ballston Spa. Mr. Cook was a thoroughly consecrated man, an earnest worker, and a liberal supporter in many ways.

"When I was elected to the Chaplaincy of the 77th N. Y. Volunteers, in 1861, I asked to be released from the pastorate, and a leading democrat moved that I have a leave of absence for six months as Wm. H. Seward thought the war would last only three months. I remained with the army of the Potomac till after the seven days' battle before Richmond; and while absent in the camp I wrote a weekly letter to some member of the session to be read at the prayer meeting, which kept the prayer meeting full both in numbers and interest.

"Death twice entered my home while pastor at Ballston Spa, and while the sympathy of the church was warmly expressed, there were two sisters, Mary and Charlotte Williams, who were to my beloved wife veritable ministering angels. When in 1868 I was called to Belvidere, N. J., and domestic reasons rendered it absolutely necessary to break the bond of love that bound us happily together for a decade and I bade my beloved flock at Ballston Spa goodbye with the deepest regret.

"The ten years which I spent in Ballston Spa were among the most eventful of my life. I should have mentioned to the praise of God's grace that the church was greatly revived in 1864-5, and quite a number added to the church on confession of faith. I ought to have given credit to Samuel Cook also for the free use of Waverly Hall for church services while the church building was undergoing repairs.

"And now may the Lord bless and prosper you more abundantly under the ministrations of one who will always be Young. Be ye steadfast, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

Yours in labor and toil,

DAVID TULLY."

Dr. Olney preached a very practical sermon, taking his text from Numbers, xxiii, 10, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

At the afternoon service Rev. W. T. Dorward gave an interesting address.

"MONUMENT SQUARE."

Mr. George D. Raymond sang with fine effect a tenor solo, "I heard the voice of Jesus say."

METHODIST CHURCH.

Rev. W. W. Cox, of Valley Falls, who was pastor of the church in 1898 preached at the morning service, taking his text from the eighth verse of the first chapter of Exodus: "Now * * * there are kings over Egypt whom you have not chosen."

At the evening service Mr. John Keyes sang the fine baritone solo "Beyond the gates of Paradise." Rev. Charles L. Hall, a former pastor, now of Cohoes, preached the sermon, taking for his subject "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." At the close of the sermon, Mr. Hall said: "You owe a debt to those who have fallen in the present century. In the centuries to come, you will be known by your fruits. Our temples, our works will be the proof. We will bear such fruits in our lives as to make it worthy of our very best service so that next century there will be a better, truer and nobler people here in order that there may be progress and emancipation."

After the services the former pastors were greeted by their many friends very cordially.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The services at St. Mary's Church both morning and evening were attended by congregations which filled the large church. At the morning service Reverend Father McDonough gave a historical sketch of the church, and spoke interestingly of the centennial.

At the evening service a very cordial greeting was extended to Reverend Father John F. Lowery, D.D., of Troy, one of the first pastors of the church. Father Lowery's address was of a reminiscent character. He said:

"It is right and just that we should at all times and everywhere give thanks to Thee, Oh Eternal Lord, Almighty Everlasting God!

"These words my dear brethren, of the Preface of the Mass, give expression to the sentiment which fills our hearts at this centennial time, for as the church says in her sublime preference that we should always and everywhere give thanks to God our Lord, certainly at this time, it is eminently proper that our hearts should go out in grateful recognition to the God of our fathers. Indeed the very thought, that we are celebrating the centennial of this old town, is enough to make our blood leap; is enough to make our hearts throb with intense joy; for to each and every one of us the festival of the centennial of this village awakens ten thousand memories. We think of our gray haired fathers who have gone before us; of our mothers' faces which never lacked a smile; our lovers, our sweethearts, brothers and sisters, and our dear friends, many of whom now sleep in silent graves. And while it awakens joyous feelings in our hearts, yet it touches all the tenderest emotions of our souls.

"At the celebration of this grand and glorious festival, the history of one hundred years is involved, the history of dear old Ballston, the history of our race and our religion, everything perhaps. The history of our families and our own individual experiences. All these things are bound up with the memories which thrill our souls on this great centennial festival. It is thus eminently proper that at this time we should give public expression to the joy that we feel and to the gratitude which we entertain in our hearts to the God of our fathers, for all the blessings which he has showered upon us as individuals and as a community, for God has not forgotten to be gracious to Ballston, nor has God forgotten to be gracious to you and yours during these hundred years. And well may the public of Ballston say that to all, without regard to creed or opinion, without regard to shades of politics. Well may they celebrate the glorious memories which leap up on every corner, at every spot of ground at this most happy time. There are none of us, my dear brethren, to whom this festival of the centennial of Ballston does not appeal with special force. We rejoice with all our fellow citizens at all the graciousness of God for the blessings which he has scattered over this village since the day it was born until the present hour, and give thanks to Thee, oh God; thou art always the same.

"So the children of Ballston from far and near come up to their Jerusalem, and the village opens all her gates to all her children, as this church opens her doors to welcome back her children from north to south, and east to west, to the home of their childhood and youth; and the village of Ballston listens in her gray hair and rejoices and exults when she meets and greets her children, coming from near and far. So wherever you go and meet a Ballstonian, black or white, Protestant or Catholic, Democrat or Republican, there you meet a man who rejoices with all his fellow citizens, a man who is prepared to celebrate a centennial. And so it is my dear brethren that all the children of Ballston rejoice in their hearts. We are all happy when old mother Ballston puts on her gay dress and seems proud, and greets her children, as, when the Crusaders saw the spires of Jerusalem, they rejoiced. So on this day the children of Ballston everywhere rejoice and exult as they behold the old town, and they come back to it with an unspeakable emotion, and in this joy, my dear brethren, I share most heartily, for I am one of the oldest priests that ministered to you in the days gone by, and forty years ago this morning I celebrated high mass in the old church on Church street. Forty years ago to-day. If there be any here who knew me then as a boy priest, I greet them in my old age, and may God have mercy on the souls of all the faithful who have departed. We all need to rejoice at all the blessings that God has poured forth upon us in the building up of the village of Ballston. In all the higher walks of life the Catholics of Ballston have stood foremost in law, finance, in medicine, in business. All and every profession of life has seen the Catholic element in Ballston doing their share, and standing first and foremost when the country was in danger, when the rebels sought to tear down the flag, then the Catholics of Ballston showed their courage by shedding the last drop of blood in its defense. There is every reason why St. Mary's congregation should rejoice in the celebration of this great centennial festival.

"The old church still remains, the old church in which I preached my sermons. It was builded strong and stout by Father Cull. It is here to-day, moved from its old site by your present beloved and distinguished pastor, smiling and opening her arms to receive everybody—the City Hall of Ballston you might say. Surely my dearly beloved, the time is full of memories for you and yours. Surely you have reason to rejoice in all that has made Ballston beautiful and prosperous. You have reason to be glad. It is right and just that we should everywhere and at all times and especially at this centennial time, give thanks to thee, Lord God Omnipotent Father, Eternal God. The Catholics of Ballston unite with their fellow citizens. They are proud of their own history here.

"The first mass that was said in this village of Ballston, was probably said in the old Sans Souci hotel by the peer and friend and adviser of George Washington, Archbishop Carroll, the first Archbishop of America. The first bishop consecrated in America, the father of the American hierarchy, in all probability offered up the sacrifice of the mass in that hotel over a century ago, and then it was that the waters began to be famous, and the great Archbishop Carroll was among the first to install the healing properties of your mineral springs. After that we have no record of mass having been said in Ballston until the year 1834, when Father Kelly, the father of the Banker Eugene Kelly of New York City, offered up mass in Ballston. As this place was not supplied with a regular pastor, it was supplied from the Saratoga church, and in 1843 Dr. Farley was nominated the first pastor of

Saratoga, and then began the regular, or I might say, occasional visits to Ballston.

"Father Farley was succeeded by Father Donahue, and Father Donahue by Father Van Reef, who afterwards returned to Holland. Father Van Reef by Father Daly, afterwards of St. John's, Utica, in 1850, and Father Daly was succeeded by Father Cull, who built the church in Saratoga, and built the old church in Ballston, although the people worshipped in a house at the foot of Charlton street until Father Cull built the church. The first resident pastor of Ballston came immediately after I left Saratoga. I well remember my visits to Ballston. I had to prepare a class for confirmation and I have met grandmothers who received their first communion from me during my ministry here. On my way to Ballston at one time I remember seeing an advertisement on a fence and I approached it and read:

'To Ballston to Ballston let him go,
Who would be rigged from top to toe
In clothes of faultless make.
Smiles, lovely smiles shall deck
The brow where gloominess is rampant now,
And hope anew shall awake.'

If you want good clothes, go to so and so.

"As I looked at this, I thought it must be an enterprising village, and I am quite sure it is an enterprising town.

"The first resident pastor was Father McGeough, who served from 1867 until 1873, and he was succeeded by Father Bayard in 1873, who remained until 1878. I remember coming to hear a lecture in the old church in 1873. In 1878, the reverend pastor, Father B. J. McDonough, was by Divine Providence assigned to this Mission, which was then heavily in debt. From that hour until the present moment, the benediction of God has seemed to descend upon this congregation. From that hour until the present moment religion has flourished in this village. Your pastor has honored the memory of his predecessors here. He has built the house of God, and he has built one of the most glorious churches in the United States. From Texas to Maine, from ocean to ocean, from north to south, there isn't a village that boasts of a finer church than St. Mary's. Equipped as only your pastor knew how to equip it; as beautiful as a bride, and not only the beautiful church in which you take such pride, but the parish house and its beautiful lawns. It fills our hearts with joy. It is a grand edifice to the village. Well may the people of Ballston rejoice at the end of the first hundred years, to have such a glorious church and such a glorious pastor.

"I did not come to preach a sermon, but rather to make a centennial address. I say all hail to this glorious centennial. Thousands and thousands shall walk the floor of this church in after generations to bless the memory of the pastor who built it. Thousands and thousands shall kneel at this altar rail and they shall bless the memory of the priests who encircled it. They shall come here to hear the word of God, and as they listen to it, they shall be reminded of those who have gone before. We have here not a lasting city, but we shall look for one to come. All hail to this glorious Village of Ballston. May the God of our fathers bless it in the future with the blessings he has bestowed on it in the past. May Ballston always be honored by her children, and may they who come here from far and near, and from over the sea, return home full of centennial joy, full of gladness in the prosperity of Ballston to-day and in the days that are to come."

After the evening service the old pastor held an informal reception at the parsonage and was pleased to shake hands and converse with some who had been under his ministrations.

MONDAY—FRATERNAL DAY.

The work of decorating the village was not completed until late on Saturday, and the surprising extent of the decorations could not be realized until after a tour throughout the town. Never before in its history has the beautiful village been so gaily attired. Thousands of yards of bright colored bunting were used, with the "stars and stripes" largely predominating over all other devices. There was scarcely a house or building in town from which "Old Glory" was not flung to the breeze.

In the afternoon all the churches, the rooms of the fraternal societies and clubs, and public buildings were opened to the public, and were visited by large numbers. Committees were in charge to receive visitors, while several served refreshments. Many interesting meetings of old friends took place at these receptions.

A most enjoyable feature of the afternoon was the splendid concert given at the speakers' stand on High street by Fairman's Boston Band. An audience of more than a thousand enjoyed the music, which was rendered in masterly style.

In its evening issue the Daily Journal said:

"Ballston Spa's centennial celebration is now at its height and a grand and glorious celebration it is proving. After weeks of enthusiastic effort the work of the several committees shows in the splendid time the people are having, and will culminate in to-morrow's pageant. Beginning with the sports on Saturday afternoon, the first day ended with the re-union on Mohican Hill, attended by three thousand people. Yesterday all the churches held re-unions and greeted with pleasure the return of former pastors. Several of them preached, while others gave reminiscences of their work here. The address by Rev. Father Lowery at St. Mary's church was a noteworthy one, as he was the oldest pastor

to return to the village, and one of the first pastors of the church."

MONDAY EVENING.

Meetings were held at St. Mary's Hall, the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, with a program consisting of brief addresses, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music.

The speakers were Rev. W. Montague Geer of New York City; Rev. A. R. Olney of Watervliet, N. Y.; Rev. W. T. Dorward of Stelton, N. J.; Prof. George P. Knox of St. Louis, Mo.; and Judge J. S. L'Amoreaux of New York and Ballston Spa.

The artists, who contributed most delightful numbers to the program, were Miss Eloise McKean, soprano, of Round Lake; the centennial quartet, Messrs. Ralph H. Davison, George D. Raymond, Howard Balch and John Keyes; violinists, Mr. Walter L. Garrett, of Glens Falls, and Miss Alma Hayes, of Ballston Spa; pianists, Mr. Edward Tracy and Mr. Walter Kathan; organists, Mrs. R. L. Carter, Baptist Church; Mrs. C. E. Fitcham, Presbyterian Church; Miss Lucy Watts, Methodist Church.

The meetings began at eight o'clock, the programs being as follows:

St. Mary's Hall—Te Deum, centennial quartet; address, Judge L'Amoreaux; violin solo, Mr. Garrett; address, Rev. W. T. Dorward; piano solo, Mr. Tracy; address, Rev. Dr. Geer; address, Prof. George P. Knox.

Baptist Church—Violin solo, Mr. Garrett; address, Prof. Knox; Te Deum, quartet; address, Judge L'Amoreaux; violin solo, Mr. Garrett; address, Rev. W. T. Dorward; anthem, choir; address, Rev. Dr. Geer.

Methodist Church—Address, Rev. Dr. Geer; organ solo, Miss Watts; address, Prof. Knox; address, Rev. Dr. Olney, Te Deum, quartet; violin solo, Miss Hayes; address, Rev. W. T. Dorward.

Presbyterian Church—Violin solo, Miss Hayes; address, Rev. W. T. Dorward; address, Rev. Dr. Geer; soprano solo, Miss Eloise McKean; address, Prof. Knox; Te Deum, quartet; address, Rev. Dr. Olney.

Hon. John H. Burke presided at St. Mary's Hall; Walter H. Wiley at the Baptist Church; Irwin Esmond at the Methodist Church; Burton D. Esmond at the Presbyterian Church.

The address of Judge L'Amoreaux was a very comprehensive, but necessarily brief history of the work of the churches during the century. He said:

"Mr. Chairman and Fellow Churchmen: It was peculiarly appropriate that the public observances of this centennial occasion should begin with the commemorative services held yesterday in the churches of our village. For Christianity and civilization are inseparably united. Destroy the churches whose numberless spires point heavenward all over this great and enlightened country, and the boasted civilization of the twentieth century would ere long place proud America on a level with the effete nations of the East, which are just now awakening to a higher civilization under the benign influences of Christianity.

"The first white owners of the land, comprising the old Ball-town district, recognized the truth of these statements by a gift of five hundred acres of land to Rev. Eliphalet Ball, for whom our village is named, a stern old Puritan of the Presbyterian faith, as an inducement for him to settle a colony of his parishioners from Connecticut, within the grant. They knew that 'stated preaching' by an earnest clergyman of their faith was the strongest incentive that could be offered to the descendants of the Puritans from the land of Knox to induce them to emigrate to the 'new country.' Eliphalet Ball was a scholar of extensive acquirements, and a Christian of exalted piety, well fitted to lay the foundation of a new community. Twenty families of his flock followed Elder Ball, and the rude log meeting house they erected near the outlet of Ballston Lake was the first house of worship in Saratoga county. This early church has maintained its organization to the present time, and is known as the Presbyterian Church of Ballston Centre.

"In the few minutes alotted to me, I want to speak to you briefly of our village churches, and their far-reaching influence for good, which is not bounded by the narrow limits of our corporation.

"The Baptists were the pioneers in the village, organizing their church here in 1791, and a few years later building their first meeting-house in the northeastern part of the present village cemetery. The first pastor was Elias Lee, 'a man of great piety and religious enthusiasm, and a preacher of tremendous power.' He was pastor of the church for twenty-nine years. Among the strong men who have served this church as pastor were Norman Fox, William Groom, William O. Holman, W. T. C. Hanna and G. G. Johnson.

"The next church instituted in the village was the Episcopalian in 1810. Rev. Joseph Perry was the first pastor, and among his successors appear such names as Dr. Babcock, rector for twenty years; Drs. Geer and Carey, Bishop Worthington and Drs. Delafield and Pelletreau.

"The first pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Samuel Irenaeus Prime, became one of the leaders of that denomination, and as editor of the New York Observer for forty years, wielded a mighty influence for righteousness all over the land. The names of Drs. Chester, Tully, Mattoon, Olney, Hayt and Teller recall the fruitful labors of these zealous ministers of the gospel.

"The 'circuit rider' of the Methodist persuasion, with his saddle-bags well supplied with Bibles and tracts, following close upon the trail of the first

settlers, was always ready to preach, pray or exhort, in the log cabin, the barn, the school house or wherever opportunity offered, and he will ever remain a blessed memory of pioneer days. The record of the work of these faithful ministers is lost to us, but the good results of their labors can be found in every community. Of the Methodist pastors of our village we recall Drs. Robinson, Fox, Squires, Loomis, Coleman, now president of a western university; Stevens and Barrett.

"The name of Havermans is a precious memory to the Catholics of this whole region. With his home in Troy, Father Peter Havermans paid frequent

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pastoral visits to Ballston Spa. He had the true missionary spirit, and was not content until he had instituted a church of his faith in the village. Fathers Cull, McGeough and Bayard were the predessors of Rev. Father McDonough, who for nearly thirty years has faithfully shepherded his flock here.

"The roll of Christian workers is not confined to the ministerial profession. Hear what Dr. Prime said of his first elders: 'The first elders of the church were Henry Doolittle, David Cory, Samuel Benton, Jonathan McBride and Isaac Nash. They were all good men, and they loved their church as they loved an only child, and all gave time and labor most freely to it. The affection which they showed to me, their boy pastor, was something wonderful. They bore me on their hearts, and would have carried me back and forth to church in their arms if it had been needful.' In later years among the faithful workers were Samuel H. Cook, Hiro Jones, Edward W. Lee, E. R. Schureman, Amos Hewitt and Joseph Horr.

"In the Baptist Church were such devoted leaders as Samuel Garrett, Deacon Crossman, Anson Garrett, Russell P. Clapp and Deacons Stillwell, Wiley and A. J. Grippen.

"Among the Episcopalians were Lebbeus Booth, James W. Horton, John H. Westcot, Wheeler K. Booth, S. B. Medbery, John Richards and B. F. Baker.

"In the Methodist ranks we find Calvin Calkins, Ebenezer Jones, Samuel Hicks, M. J. and W. J. Esmond, Joseph L. Weed and Ira Tucker. If time would permit the roll could be continued almost indefinitely.

"And what have these Christian forces accomplished through the years of the past century. Their influence for good down through the one hundred years of our village life cannot be measured in words. But is this all? Has this ennobling influence been limited to the narrow confines of this immediate locality? No! a thousand times no! Albert Whiting, a Ballston boy, a member of our Presbyterian Church, goes as a Missionary of the Cross to the interior of China, and carries the civilization and Christianity of his homeland to that great heathen nation. Famine and disease come to the district in which he labors, and in ministering to others his own life is sacrificed. A martyr hero for his faith.

"Fred Wiley, known to most of you, gives up home and kindred and friends, and in far-off India, with its swarming millions, with his faithful wife

he labors to bring to that people the blessings of Christianity and our Western civilization.

"And Dr. Mattoon, after a life of mission service in Siam, returns to become pastor of our Presbyterian Church for a few years, and then takes up his missionary work again among the colored people of the South, as president of Biddle University, where he ends a long and useful life.

"And so, through these consecrated men and many others, the life of Ballston Spa, its Christian civilization and uplifting influence, reaches out across seas and continents, and links itself to that other life of the far Eastern countries, and as time marches on the seed thus sown shall result in a glorious harvest of higher civilization and nobler Christian living.

"In closing, let me take you back for a moment to the very begining of missionary work in this part of the country. Back to the middle of the seventeenth century, when the celebrated Jesuit father, Isaac Jogues, founded the 'Mission of the Martyrs, St. Mary of the Mohawks,' among the Indians of that tribe of the Six Nations, whose favorite hunting grounds were along the Kayaderosseras, and in this immediate vicinity. Faithfully the good father labored among the savage tribes, but notwithstanding his self-sacrificing efforts, he was tortured until life was nearly extinct, and driven from the country. He persisted in returning to his labor of love among the savage aborigines, although fearful that his life would pay the forfeit; and his fears were well founded, for he was treacherously slain, and his body thrown into the Mohawk River. Father Jogues was a finished scholar, of rare talent, and in every way fitted for a brilliant career; but he had chosen another work, that of an humble, self-sacrificing missionary of the cross. And so it has been down through the ages, in every country, and every clime, on our Pacific coast, among the savages of the far West, and wherever the foot of civilized man has trod, among the pioneers will be found the priests of the Catholic church.

"And in the days to come, our village, our churches, you and I, each have our part to perform in the great work of word-wide evangelization, which shall bring all peoples, of every race and color, to a truer, and nobler conception of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God."

Rev. W. T. Dorward, of Stelton, N. J., former pastor of the Baptist Church, was a delightful speaker and interspersed his remarks with many an amusing story, but all had a point in them that applied most aptly to what he wished to illustrate. He spoke on "The Absent Sons and Daughters," and among other things said: "Why not think for a moment of these absent sons and daughters of Ballston Spa who are scattered over this broad land. Doubtless they would be with us this evening if they could and are thinking of us. Let us think of these absent sons and daughters who are doing their part nobly and well in their various professions. Let us ask them the cause of their success? Those who have succeeded are they who have faced the difficulties and taken the bull by the horns. They are successful because they had energy, the power to make things go, the power to take hold, hold on and never let go."

Mr. Dorward related an incident when his little son on being required to sleep in the dark remarked, "God will take care of us in the dark, won't he, papa, and then in a whisper, Did you lock the door?" He drew a lesson from this by saying, "Let us pray for protection, but continue to lock the door against anything that will mar the fair name of Ballston." In closing he said, "The secret of public speaking is said to be 'get up boldly, open your mouth widely and sit down quickly' which I will now do."

Rev. Dr. Olney, former pastor of the Presbyterian Church, was heard with pleasure at two of the churches. He gave no regular address but what was perhaps to many of his hearers just as pleasing, told stories, and gave a number of reminiscences of his life in this village.

Rev. Dr. Geer from his remarks at the last place where he spoke evidently enjoyed the experience of relay meetings as he called them. He said he had had a novel experience in being taken about in an automobile just as though he was running for some exalted office, and that it was an experience he would not forget.

Dr. Geer spoke on the need of moral and religious training for the young and mentioned the fact that when he was young the parish schools gave that training as part of the education. He deplored the fact that moral and religious training had practically been put out of the public schools. "We all deplore the fact," said Dr. Geer, "but do not know how to remedy it. We are robbing the Christian child of his Christian heritage and robbing the Hebrew child of his Hebrew heritage. To what do we owe the fact that there is an enormous increase in juvenile crime in the United States? To what do we owe the fact that the divorce courts of the country are grinding out a product that is poisoning the family life and robbing the children of their God given right of a home?"

He then spoke of the conditions of life in

the cities for young men and women saying, "We owe a duty to our young women. We are sending these girls into the dusty arena of business life, where they must inevitably sustain close relations with men, and with men who are not known to their parents. We should provide conditions that will make their lives as safe and pleasant as possible."

In closing he touched on the continual violation of the law by the saloon keepers saying, "They should obey the law and if the laws do not suit them go to Albany and have them changed. If they will not obey the law they should be compelled to. I am proud that you are doing something in that in this village."

Mr. Knox spoke of how glad he was to get back to Ballston each summer, and that his pride in the old home town was great. He paid a glowing tribute to the natural beauty of the place, especially mentioning the trees as its chief glory.

He said that the magnificent elms which in places completely overarch the streets are fully worthy to be called "cathedral elms." He spoke of the dearth of large trees in the newer sections of St. Louis and how every tree should be prized and safeguarded.

Mr. Knox called attention to the fact that a person can travel the world over and find but very few localities where the mineral effervescent spring water can be found in the quality and quantity that it is in this village and vicinity. Continuing, the speaker made a strong plea for the preservation and active maintenance of the mineral springs here in the town. If the present demand for the water is so slight as to make it a losing venture for the individual then the community should by some fair and acceptable arrangement secure ownership or control of the springs and then maintain them as a legitimate and necessary part of the business of the village corporation. The springs should each be made accessible, rendered attractive to visitors, all at the town's expense if the individual owners found the burden oppressive. It is as reasonable and as wise an expenditure on the part of the village as the care of the streets or any other public property, being administered by the public for the public good without asking whether the immediate and direct returns were forthcoming. The best business advertisement this village could make lies in its trees, its springs, its streets and its beautiful homes and public buildings, for these are the things which inevitably attract visitors.

Continuing his remarks the speaker made an earnest and eloquent appeal for civic zeal and patriotism. He pleaded for activity, progressiveness and integrity at the present moment as being the key to the future; that just as our present conditions are the direct and inevitable result of the efforts put forth in the years that are past so we now hold the key to the future prosperity of our beautiful village.

Mr. Knox spoke in high terms of the honesty and integrity of the officials of the village, and insisted that it is the duty of every citizen to be active in the care of the welfare of the town.

The village papers said of these meetings:

Daily News: "The chain of mass meetings in connection with Ballston Spa's centennial celebration was an important feature of Monday's program. The feat of giving the program in four places was successfully accomplished by the literary committee. The speakers and musicians were whirled from place to place in automobiles. Each one was allotted ten minutes and if the speaker heard the chug-chug of the auto, he might well know that his time was nearly up and that he was due to move in short order."

Daily Journal: "'Relay meetings,' as one of the speakers on Monday evening termed the centennial meetings, held at the four separate places, proved an unqualified success. The speakers were brief, racy and profound, and at all times interesting. The program was arranged in a manner so that all the meetings were continued with only slight waits while the speakers and musicians were carried in automobiles from place to place. Two large autos were used and it must certainly have been a very novel experience for all of those who took part in the program. The musical part of the program was exceptionally fine. Mr. Garrett, of Glens Falls, and Miss Alma Hayes, of this village, gave a number of fine violin solos, while numerous selections were sung by the male quartet composed of Messrs. John Keyes, Ralph Davison, George Raymond and Howard Balch. National anthems were also sung by the choirs, which were heartily joined in by the audiences."

TUESDAY—CENTENNIAL DAY.

The parade in the forenoon was the most magnificent pageant ever witnessed in the village. The semi-centennial of American Independence was observed in Ballston Spa July 4, 1826, and the parade on that occasion was the only one in the history of the village that

has approached the centennial parade in magnificence and appropriateness. To the honor of the village let it be said that the two most notable events in its history were observed in a manner so entirely in keeping with the historic events commemorated.

The addresses of President Wiswall, Judge L'Amoreaux, Gen. Horatio C. King and Col. William L. Stone were admirable in their character, and eloquent in their delivery. The centennial ode by Rev. Howard B. Grose, D.D., was a splendid production, and on occasions of this character, has rarely been equalled for literary merit, and excellence of delivery.

THE PARADE.

The parade formed with the right of the line at High and Ballston streets, and extended south on Ballston to McMaster street; through McMaster street to Church avenue; north on Church avenue to High street, and east on High street to the end of the line, and was more than a mile in length.

Gen. John B. Babcock, U. S. A., (retired) was Marshal of the Day, assisted by James J. O'Brien as Chief Marshal, in immediate charge of the parading column, and Assistant Marshals James E. Conner, George T. Cunningham, Morris Dower and Henry Lewis.

The formation of the line was as follows:

FIRST DIVISION.

Marshal—James J. O'Brien.
Assistant Marshal—James E. Conner.
Aids—Fred West and Arthur Tracy.
Platoon of Police
Officers Buckley, Parks, Deming, Thomas, McCarthy, Steenburg.
Doring's Band, of Troy, 35 pieces.
Co. L., N. Y. S. N. G., of Saratoga Springs, Capt. Walbridge in command with 65 men.

CARRIAGE DIVISION.

President I. W. Wiswall and Gen. Horatio C. King.
Village Trustees.
Former Village Presidents.
Parade Committee.
Clergymen of Village and Visiting Clergymen, Supervisors Saratoga County. County Officers.
Members of Post McKittrick and Visiting Veterans.
Old Residents.
Old Cannon.
Centennial Float—Teaching the Coming Generation.
Officers of the W. C. T. U.

SECOND DIVISION.

George T. Cunningham, Assistant Marshal.
Aids—John Redmond, Walter Furlong.
Citizens Band of Ballston Spa, 25 pieces.
Eagle Fire Company, drawing Hose Cart, Foreman Rooney in command, with 25 men.
Hose Cart Union Fire Company drawn by horses.
Union Fire Company, Foreman Frank Holmes in command, with 28 men.
Hook and Ladder Cart drawn by horses.
Matt Lee Hook and Ladder Company, Foreman Frank Byrne in command, with 20 men.
Old Stage Coach with Senior Class of School.

THIRD DIVISION.

William Dower, Assistant Marshal.
Aids—R. L. Carter and W. J. Hopkins.
Luna Park Police.
Fairman's Band of Boston, Mass., 24 pieces.
Delegation of fourteen Conductors and Motormen of Schenectady Railway.
Local Union Stationary Firemen, 30 men in line, Charles Coleman, president, led by Miss Ina Wood on horseback, and Charles Coleman and John Bowen, as mascots, leading the horse.
Carpenter's Union, 50 men, with Charles Baker in command.
Paper Maker's Union, 36 men with Francis R. Holmes in command.
E. M. Brown Rifle Corps, H. D. Davenport in command.
Knights of Pythias Float.
Spinning Wheel Float.
Lady Maccabee Float.
Rebekah Float.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Henry Lewis, Assistant Marshal.
Aids—Dennis Tracy and Daniel Fagan.
Centennial Drum Corps.
Italian Society Vittorio Emanuelo III, with Thomas Rae in command and 32 men.
Union Bag and Paper Company Float.
American Hide and Leather Company Float.
Pioneer Paper Mill Float.

CARRIAGE DIVISION.

There were thirty carriages in the line, formed in the following order:

Speakers' carriage—Village President Irving W. Wiswall, and the orator of the day, General Horatio C. King, of New York.

Village officials—Trustees William S. Waterbury, Hugh S. Finley, Clerk William H. Sherman, Former President Abijah Comstock. Second carriage, Trustees George W. Miller, John Corning and Leander Spicer.

Former presidents—Alfred N. Wiley, Charles O. McCreedy, Stephen C. Medbery and Douglas W. Mabee.

Parade committee—Irwin Esmond, Daniel Furlong, Charles H. Grose and Walter H. Wiley.

Prominent residents—Andrew S. Booth, Thomas Kerley, James W. Verbeck and Prof. George Platt Knox.

Clergymen—First carriage, Rev. B. J. McDonough, Rev. Father Mulligan and Rev. Father McLaughlin,

of Saratoga Springs and Mr. James V. Dower. Second carriage, Rev. W. T. Dorward, Rev. H. S. Rowe, Rev. Arthur T. Young. Third carriage, Revs. W. T. C. Hanna and A. B. Potter and Messrs. A. Fairweather, of Troy, J. W. Smith, of Waterford.

Supervisors—First carriage, Charles M. Davison, Saratoga Springs; S. H. Ellithorpe, Edinburgh; Charles H. Carr, Wilton. Second carriage, Chairman A. G. Deyoe, of Northumberland; Thomas Finley, Milton; Clerk John B. Smith and Assistant Clerk George Smith. Third carriage, Fred Ruback, Galway; C. S. Latham, Greenfield; W. H. Allen, Halfmoon; Orange E. Kathan, Day. Fourth carriage, John Cole, Waterford; Elmer E. Baker, Saratoga; John Washburn, Moreau; William P. Jeffords, Providence. Fifth carriage, John C. Baker, Stillwater; Charles L. Brooks, Edinburgh; George F. Turpit, Malta; George L. Cavert, Ballston.

Visiting officials—Surrogate W. S. Ostrander, Former Sheriff E. J. Caldwell, Stephen Lee and Hon. C. R. Sheffer, of Mechanicville.

Post McKittrick and Visiting Veterans—First carriage, Commander A. J. Freeman, Adam Niles, A. J. Carter and G. D. Story. Second carriage, Henry Lowry, Christian Frear, John O'Brien and Joel Streeter. Third carriage, John Spatehouse, James Hand, Moses Laque and James Condren. Fourth carriage, Rev. Asher Cook, A. Bennett, John Shaff and G. Grovesteen. Fifth carriage, George W. Gardner, Alexander Morrison, Thomas Jennings and Wallace Morrison. Sixth carriage, A. Mead, P. B. Vixon, Charles Spiegel and Andrew Merrithew. Seventh carriage, George Washburn, Ira Groot, Henry Marcellus and H. A. Smith. Eighth carriage, Elliott G. Reid, Albert J. Reid, James Reid and S. W. Horning. Ninth carriage, Seth Hill, Braman Ayers, G. H. Dingman, R. C. Green and Lewis Shonts. Tenth carriage, C. W. Berger, G. W. Peacock, Wm. L. Towle.

Old Citizens—First carriage, Nelson L. Roe, Samuel McGuire, John Aumack, Ephraim Webster. Second carriage, James L. Briggs, George W. Clark, James F. Peckham and Robert Tarrant.

Visitors—First carriage, Sheriff John Bradley, James B. McKain, Thomas W. Winney, George H. West, Thomas F. Barrett. Second carriage, Levinus Lansing, Norman W. Kelso, Hiram Haight, Frank Gick.

"MILTON SQUARE."

W. C. T. U.—Mrs. A. E. Hall, president; Mrs. C. Garling, vice-president; Mrs. M. Newkom, secretary; Mrs. M. Garrett, treasurer.

FLOAT DIVISION.

The centennial float was unique and very prettily decorated with American flags, tricolors and bunting. It represented a teacher instructing a class of pupils in the history of centuries gone by. In her hand she held a modern history, while grouped around her were the scholars listening attentively to her lecture. The sides of the float bore the date 1807-1907 and this inscription: "Teach the coming generation the history of our past."

Miss Clara Ham was the teacher and the pupils were Mary Flynn, Pauline Feeney, Helen Thoma and Katharine Reilly.

Another village float was the spinning wheel float. This was decorated in a similar manner as the former, the costumes being in keeping with fashions of the olden days. The Misses Mildred Arnold and Agatha Shaeffer represented the spinners and were busily engaged with their wheel, spinning the flax. William Jones was the driver.

The most elaborate of the floats was the one representing Hermion Lodge, No. 90, Knights of Pythias, George West Uniform Rank, No. 19, and the Pythian Sisters. It depicted a scene in the story of Damon and Pythias. The King sat on his throne surrounded by Pythias, Calanthia, the betrothed of Pythias; Damon, his wife and child, the senators and the executioner. The picture: Pythias offering himself as a hostage to Damon, his friend. The characters were as follows: King Dionysius, Willard W. Brown; Pythias, William Parker; Pythias' betrothed, Mrs. R. L. De Long; Damon, Walter Gledhill; his wife, Mrs. Braman Ayers; his child, Gladys Crippen; Master at Arms, Harry Painter; attendants to King, H. C. Strube, Henry Ferris; senators, John Niles, A. J. Merriam, George Ayers, James Clute; executioner, E. M. Scribner; Roman soldiers leading the horses, Henry M. Crippen, William T. Gray, George Tibbetts and Jonas Smith. The costumes were very gorgeous, and correctly represented the magnificence of the early Roman era. The float was drawn by four iron gray horses decked in Roman horse trimmings.

A very attractive float was that of the Rebekahs, I. O. O. F. The decorations corresponded to the scene which was a representation of Rebekah and her attendants at the well. On pennants at each corner of the float were the bee hive, dove, moon and stars, the emblems of the order. Miss Anna Finnemore represented Rebekah; the banner bearers were Mrs. D. N. Hammond, Mrs. George DeCora, Miss Ada Miller, Miss Celia Castle; the staff bearers Pearl L'Amoreaux, Ethel Earl, Jennie Siemer, Sophia Beek, Hilda Boocock, Edith Finnemore, Lelia Johnson, Elsie Arnold.

The order of Maccabees was represented by a float, handsomely decorated and presenting a fine appearance. In the centre of the float, was a perfect representation of a large bee hive, about which there were bees about to enter. The banner bearers were Laura Partridge, Ethel Van Alstyne, Nellie Herald; standard bearers, Marion Rockwell, Eleanor Baker, Mary Jones, Gladys Foote; driver of team, William Mould.

The two largest industries in the village were represented in the parade. The Union Bag and Paper Company by a float illustrating their productions from nature's tree to the manufactured paper bag. Displayed on the float, which was finely decorated, were the pulp wood, the manufactured pulp and the paper bag. Misses Mabel Coleman and Anna Kyack handed out souvenirs of small paper bags all along the line of march.

The float of the American Hide and Leather Company displayed a variety of leather from the crudest tanning to the most highly finished product, made for the occasion by James Painter. The float was decorated with a profusion of American flags and a design of an American Indian and a bull's head. Misses Jennie Denn, Anna May Fisher, Josephine Denn, Leona Mae Tabor, Esther Ryan, Katharine Doherty, Flora Flinton and Helen Harrison, in appropriate costume, added beauty to utility in the representation.

The Pioneer Paper Mill was represented by a handsomely decorated float, showing the process of paper making. The passing of the paper through the machine, and winding into rolls ready for shipment was very ingeniously represented. The occupants of the float were E. Butler, D. Hunter and R. Morrissey.

LINE OF MARCH.

The line of march was from Ballston street to Bath street, to Front, to Milton avenue, to Middlebrook street, to South, to Milton avenue, to Pleasant street, to Beach, to High and westward on High street to Bath street, where the parade was dismissed.

When the right of the line reached the reviewing stand in front of Christ Church parish house on High street, the parade halted, and President Wiswall, General King, and the occupants of the carriages occupied the platform, while the parade passed in review, amid continuous cheering and applause.

NOTES OF THE PARADE.

THE BANDS.

Doring's Band, of Troy, which is famous throughout the United States, and which is one of the oldest, as well as one of the best military bands in the country, was very appropriately given first place in the line. This Band was organized by the late Charles Doring more than half a century ago, and is now led by his son, Professor George Doring. Thirty-five men were in line, and their magnificent playing was greeted with heartiest applause all along the route of the march.

Mr. Edward F. Peck, Manager of the Schenectady Railway, and Mr. George E. Gill, of Luna Park, contributed liberally to the parade by sending a platoon of Luna Park police, fourteen conductors and motermen of the Railway Company, and Fairman's Boston Band, which headed the Third Division. This was the Band which gave the splendid concert Monday afternoon, and their playing during the march was very fine.

The Citizens' Band of Ballston Spa, with twenty-five men, led the Second Division. No doubt the occasion and their home pride inspired them to do their very best. They played in splendid style, and were generously applauded.

The Centennial Drum Corps of Ballston Spa furnished martial music for the Fourth Division in spirited and admirable style.

INTERESTING FEATURES.

The mode of travel in by-gone days was illustrated in a unique manner by the old post-coach "Rambler." More than sixty years has passed since William Gilson, of Galway village, first drove this old coach, then one of the finest in the land, from Galway to Ballston Spa. Well does the writer recall with what interest the boys of old Galway watched for the daily return of the stage-coach, with its splendid double team of bays, heralded by the strident tone of the stage-horn half a mile away. Gilson was the typical stage-driver of early days, good-natured, easy-going, and with a fund of local anecdotes that beguiled the two hours' journey, including the stop at Speir's Corners to change the mails. A worthy successor was "Marve" Chase, who drove the old coach some thirty years ago. The coach was occupied by the members of the senior class of the High School, Misses Aileen Reilly, Helen Clements, Mary Van Buren, Ruth Neal, Anna Bush, Edith Eede, Nellie Anderson, Arabella Fuller, Frances Finley, Messrs. Wyatt Pickering, Joseph Humphrey and Henry Humphrey.

The E. M. Brown Rifle Corps attracted considerable attention, and elicited frequent applause. This company of thirty children were from the Chatfield Corners district school in Greenfield, and their ages raged from five to sixteen years. For some time they had been drilled by "Drummer Boy" Davenport, of that town, who claims the distinction of having been the youngest soldier in the civil war. Clad in an attractive costume and carrying model rifles the children went through a number of evolutions in fine style and with admirable precision.

Company L, of the Second Regiment, New York State Militia, of Saratoga Springs, under Captain John K. Walbridge, had the post of honor at the right of the line. The soldierly bearing and fine marching of the Company was greeted with salvos of applause as they marched through the crowded streets.

Our "fire laddies" showed they had not forgotten the skill in marching movements which has won for them many prizes in drill contests. Three times they have been proclaimed the champions of the State. As they marched by in military formation, or drawing their hose carts, they received an ovation at every point.

Fully ten thousand people witnessed the parade as it passed through the streets of the village. It was a good-natured, happy crowd, and no disturbance or disorder of any kind marred the jollity of the passing hours. Even the thunder storm did not dampen the jubilant spirit of the great concourse of villagers and the village guests.

Misses Josephine and Nora O'Rourke of Saratoga Springs and Miss Mabel Gleason of Mechanicville, showered the carriages containing the trustees with flowers as the parade passed. It was a very pretty conception. The Misses O'Rourke are nieces of Trustee Miller.

The Ballston Journal speaking of the parade, said:

"Old Sol was on duty early yesterday morning and by the time the parade had formed had sent the thermometer dancing up into the nineties. It was a warm reception he gave both the visiting and local

companies, so that by the time they had reached their position in the formation they were glad to take refuge under the shade of the large elm trees that lined the streets. If he had only continued to do duty for an hour longer instead of allowing Jupiter Pluvius to get in his innings all would have been forgiven. All is well that ends well, and the parade was a success in spite of the heavy thunder storm that marred a portion of it, and disappointed some of the watchers along the line of march.

"It was a sight not soon to be forgotten by those who viewed the parade on Front street and Milton avenue. Both streets were packed beyond the curbs with thousands of spectators and as the companies marched past to inspiring music of the bands, with the gaily decorated buildings, hardly anything more pleasing from a spectacular point of view could well be imagined.

"At eleven o'clock the formation of the line was complete and Marshal O'Brien gave the word to Capt. Walbridge, of Company L, and headed by Doring's band the parade started from the corner of Ballston and High streets.

"Owing to the fact that the owners of the automobiles said it was impracticable for them to keep in the line and run at slow speed for so long, it was arranged for them to go over the line first. About twenty autos, occupied mostly by young ladies, went rapidly over the line prior to the regular parade.

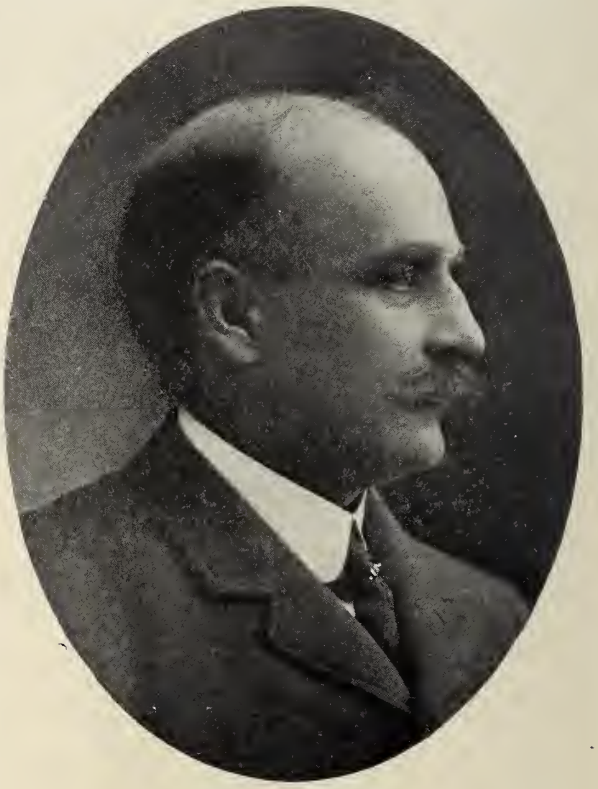
"It was very much regretted by everybody, and perhaps more so by the children, that the pupils of the village schools were unable, on account of the thunder storm, to take their appointed part in the parade. To save the little ones a long march, it was arranged for them to assemble at the Bath street school and fall in line as the parade reached Van Buren street on Milton avenue. The children fell in line at this point as arranged and marched to the north end when the storm caused them to take refuge in the South street school and houses. Only a small portion of the town thus had the pleasure of seeing the children in line."

It is an interesting comparison to note that in the semi-centennial parade in 1826, forty-three years after the close of the war, thirty-seven veterans of the Revolution were in the line. In the centennial parade of 1907, forty-two years after the close of the civil war, forty veterans of the war of the Rebellion were in the line.

THE ADDRESSES.

At half-past two o'clock the Revolutionary bell hanging in the tower of the Parish House of Christ Church summoned the people to the crowning event of the Centennial Celebration.

When the exercises began, with a selection by Doring's Band, five thousand people had assembled under the arching elms at the intersection of Milton avenue, Church avenue, High and Low streets. The speakers' stand was erected immediately in front of the Parish House, which was originally built for a State Armory, and the headquarters of the old Twenty-ninth Regiment of the State Militia, and is one of the old landmarks of the village.



IRVING W. WISWALL.

Village President Irving W. Wiswall gave the address of welcome, saying:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: The Village of Ballston Spa, extends its welcome and greetings to this vast concourse of people assembled here to-day. Centennial greetings come to us only on rare occasions indeed. An hundred years, by far, exceeds the lifetime of the oldest resident in this community. In this great Empire State of ours there are but a half dozen villages that can proudly claim to have experienced a rounded century of municipal government.

"The celebration which we have inaugurated and are now carrying forth, is not only to commemorate, but to sanction and confirm the wisdom, of those hardy pioneers, who chose this beautiful valley, and amid these picturesque hills, as a fitting and proper place, to establish a little village settlement, where churches could be erected, school

houses builded, temples of justice reared, and where the tradesman could exchange his wares for the products of the farm and factory.

"And thus it was in the long, long ago, that our forefathers, recognizing and appreciating the beauties with which Nature had endowed this spot, and having almost Divine faith in the medicinal merits of the waters which flowed from its springs, cast their lot in this place, and hewed out the forests, blasted away the rocks, made crude roads, and constructed their primitive houses, and then, after all this was done, they took upon themselves the more serious question of Government. Realizing that Law and Order are the very foundation of society and that some form of local government was necessary, they met in serious deliberation at old Brookside, one hundred years ago, and then and there, formed the same village government, that we the citizens of Ballston Spa delight to honor, and to be honored by her on this joyful occasion.

"The Valley of the Kayaderosseras has always been of historic importance. It was the much prized and coveted hunting and fishing ground of the early tribes of Indians. And the many raids and massacres made upon the first settlers, attest to the stubbornness and tenacity of the Iroquois, in their lothness and unwillingness to surrender their favorite hunting ground. The local histories of Stone, of Walworth and of Sylvester, contain the recital of many stirring scenes of bloody contests, which occurred in this vicinity between the Indians and the early settlers during the last quarter of the eighteenth century.

"As we recall the struggles and hardships of those men and women, who became the first citizens of our village, and the country round about Ballston Spa, it fills us anew with patriotic impulses and civic pride, to feel and to know, that our forefathers were of that sturdy, rugged type, that knew no fear, save of Almighty God; men and women to whom discouragement and terror, were strangers; men and women who surmounted each obstacle as it appeared, who were daunted by nothing, and in whose breast at all times beat a heart filled with love of Country and of God.

"These, then are the men, and these are the women, whose memories, whose acts and whose deeds we are celebrating to-day. And who is there here, in this great multitude assembled, who belongs to and is a citizen of this old historic locality, who is not proud that he can trace his ancestry back to those worthy yeomen who composed the very backbone and sinew of our Country an hundred years ago?

CHRIST CHURCH HIGH STREET. PARISH HOUSE.

The Centennial Exercises were held here, the speakers' platform being in front of the Parish House.

"Let us all feel proud that we are American citizens, and live in a country whose richest heritage is the patriotism of her citizens and whose choicest gift to her people is the freedom and liberty which is a part of the birth-right guaranteed to every American born citizen.

"Again, let me extend to you all the hospitality which our fair Village can offer. May you feel that you are among your friends to-day and that the latch string hangs out for you everywhere.

"Our one regret is, that the great and good Governor of the State of New York could not be with us to-day. It is to him a very great disappointment, that the unusual condition of State affairs, make it imperative that he remain at the Capitol to-day. But he personally delivered to me this message: 'Give all the people assembled at Ballston Spa my love and affection, and tell them I regret very much I cannot be with them much as I would like to do so.' So Governor Hughes is with us in spirit at least, and let us be thankful that we have this great manly man at the helm of the executive affairs of the peerless Empire State.

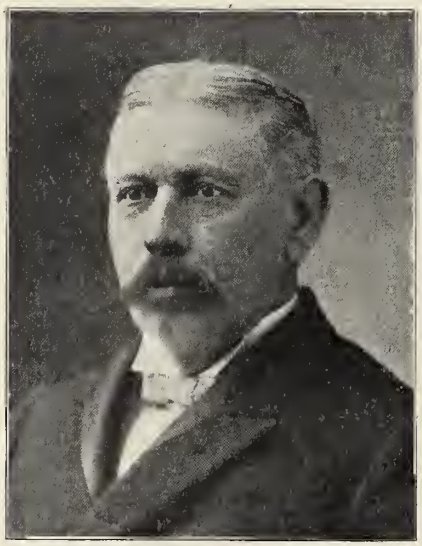
"Now, wishing you all joy and happiness, and

extending to you, our neighbors and friends, the best wishes of all our citizens, I take very great pleasure in presenting to you, as the President of the Day our most distinguished townsman, who has won eminence in the legal world, both at home and abroad, the Honorable Judge L'Amoreaux."

BALLSTON SPA IN HISTORY.

In taking charge of the exercises Judge L'Amoreaux received a very cordial greeting. His address was a comprehensive history of the village, with sketches of its noted men. The address follows:

"The gracious and kindly words of the President's introduction and welcome will be treasured as a pleasant memory of this very pleasant occasion.



HON. J. S. L'AMOREAUX.

"The speaker is under obligation to various persons who have aided him in the collection of facts, the ground work of to-day's remarks. To all such his thanks are extended.

"We are here to-day to celebrate the one-hundreth anniversary of our municipal existence. Our people have come from different sections of this great country to revisit the scenes of their childhood, to renew old acquaintances, or to recall their labors and successes while they were citizens of Ballston. To one and all Ballston extends to you a hearty welcome. Every house is hospitable, every heart is warm, and every hand outstretched in its cordial welcome.

"And it is well to recall the past, to review the progress of a century. To be reminded how this village mirrors in itself the progress, the success, and the wealth of the great nation. What our fathers and our neighbors have done here, the citizens of the United States all over this vast country have done, and we have had our share in building up this great and prosperous nation.

"Behind this century, and largely moulding it, were the struggles and wars of the eighteenth century, the contest with the Indians, and the Mother country. These troubles, privations and conflicts made the men who have contributed so largely to the wealth and grandeur of the United States.

"Much as we may, and ought to deprecate war; much as we may, and ought to pray for peace, and do all in our power to preserve it, nevertheless, it is beyond contradiction that the perils of many years of Indian warfare, the privations, the heroism of the Revolution, and the sacrifices and bloodshed of the Civil War, have done much to toughen the fiber, to give endurance and nerve, and persistence to the people in time of peace and business activity. The men who learn to suffer are wise and strong in building business enterprises, in consolidating great commercial interests, in financing great combinations of capital, in building railroads, canals, steamships, telegraphs.

"One can scarcely, even with vivid imagination, place himself a century ago in the environment of that age. With no railroads, with no telegraphs, with no steamboats,—for Fulton had but just perfected his invention,—with miserable roads, with no postal conveniences, with little means of communication with the outside world. In such a condition a community must, of necessity, grow its food, produce and manufacture its clothing, and be, in almost every way, dependent upon itself for every necessity and comfort of life. The capitol of the State was but a few miles away, and yet, in that day, a hundred years ago, doubtless many were born and have died here, who never traveled so far from home as to Albany, and had but small idea of the outside world, and never dreamed of the wonders that steam and electricity were to produce in a short century.

"To rehearse the story of these hundred years, to review the mighty events which have made and preserved us a nation, is more interesting and thrilling than the most popular romance. Out of this very soil, as it were, these things have grown, the years as they have come and gone, have woven the fabric of the present, and the labors, and privations and tears of our fathers and neighbors, have colored this fabric with its beautiful and variegated hues.

"In the constant onward march of the years, which knows no backward step, but ever moves on and on to the end of the ages, we halt for a brief moment at this close of century of village life, to recall memories of the past,—to bring to our remembrance the men who have trod the stage of action—and to review the scenes and incidents which have contributed to the record of our historic life.

"A hundred years is only a leaf from the book of time, yet what marvellous changes have been wrought in a little more than a century past. Where this beautiful village now stands, with its pleasant homes, its thriving industries and busy life, was then a primeval forest; the favorite hunting ground of the tribes of the Six Nations; the 'happy valley of the healing waters,' which, to the untutored Indians were the especial gift of the Great Spirit. The axe of the pale-face had not been laid to the root of the grand old monarchs of the woods,

and 'when the autumnal glories had fallen upon the forest,' and the tribes took to the old trails which led to the hunting grounds around the springs in the valley of the Kayaderosseras, no warrior's hand brandished the tomahawk or drew taut the bow-string except as the frightened deer bounded across the trail, or the fierce grizzly contested the woodland path. The 'valley of the crooked stream' was neutral ground, and through the brief Indian summer, on lake and stream, and in the forests depths, all was peace—and at the close of the hunting season, well-laden with their spoils, Mohawk and Oneida, Iroquois and Algonquin—took the homeward trail, and the 'Indian's Paradise' was left in quiet solitude until another twelve moons should come and go.

"But the advent of the pale-face was at hand. In the summer of 1771 a little company of surveyors halted in the noon-day heat, on the brow of the hill yonder, not a thousand feet from where we are standing. Looking down through the giant pines, they saw the sparkling water of a small stream as it flowed across the Indian clearing at the foot of the hill. Hurrying down to the bank of the stream, they discovered the ancient Indian spring of 'healing water.'

"Beriah Palmer, who was in charge of the party, built a rude enclosure of logs around the spring, to secure it from the inroads of the creek nearby. Palmer was from New York, and when he returned to that city in the autumn, he told of his discovery of the medicinal spring. It was this circumstance which led to the settlement of Ballston Spa.

"For a number of years, however, no one 'settled' near the spring. Numerous parties visited the locality, camping out near the spring, or stopping with the settlers a mile or more to the south. After the close of the Revolutionary War the visitors to the spring rapidly increased in number, and about the year 1787, a log tavern was erected on the hill about where the surveying party halted years before, and a second log tavern was built just west of the spring. A few years later this primitive hotel gave place to a large frame building, later known as the Aldridge House, and now known as 'Brookside.'

"The same year, Nicholas Low, a New York merchant, also built a large hotel east of the spring, and a small hamlet called Ballstown Springs sprang up in the immediate vicinity. The fame of the springs as a summer resort spread abroad, and in 1804 Mr. Low opened the Sans Souci Hotel to the public. It was the largest and finest hotel in the United States, and in succeeding years entertained such noted men as Jerome Bonaparte, ex-King of Spain, Presidents Jackson, Van Buren and Pierce, also Clay, Webster and Calhoun, three great and inseparable names in American history; Governors Clinton and Marcy, General Wool, Commodores Hull and Decatur, J. Fenimore Cooper and Washington Irving, Seward, Douglas and Prince Louis Napoleon, the last Emperor of France. In fact, the old register of this famous hotel was a most complete roll of the great names in those early days of American history. Numerous mineral springs were developed, and Ballston Spa was at the zenith of its renown, and for a quarter of a century maintained its proud position as the 'first watering place of America.' From some unknown cause the springs began to fail and the rival village to the north soon gained the first place, and Saratoga became, and is to-day one of, if not the, most famous summer resort in the United States.

"The location of the county seat in the village in 1816, gave political pre-eminence to Ballston Spa. When its fame as a watering place began to decline, attention was turned to the splendid water power afforded by the Kayaderosseras. Manufactories were built in the village and all along the stream for twelve miles to the north, and the industrial prosperity of the village, more enduring than its earlier fame as a summer resort, was secured, and to-day our thriving, happy village is one of the great industrial centres of Northern New York.

"Having thus briefly sketched the settlement and growth of the village, let us now recall memories of honored citizens who served well their day and generation and have left to us a noble heritage. First among a long line of prominent public men stands John W. Taylor, whose home was on West High street, not far from where we are assembled. In 1812 and '13 he was a member of the state assembly, and in the latter year was elected representative in Congress. During his long service of twenty years in the House, he gained national celebrity as a brilliant orator and statesman, and one of the leaders of public opinion. A contemporary of Webster, Calhoun and Clay, he succeeded the latter as speaker of the House, and has the distinction of being the only representative of the Empire State who has occupied the third position in our national government. Mr. Taylor delivered the first speech in Congress in opposition to the extension of slavery. It was a powerful and eloquent address, foretelling the dangers which threatened the government from 'that blot on the nation's escutcheon—the slave system of the South.' The speech was printed and widely circulated, causing heated discussions in many localities. The most popular citizen in all this region—in frequent demand as the orator on public occasions of every character, yet, with all the honors which came to him, he remained a modest, courtly gentleman of the old school. Fond of his home, his garden and flowers — deeply interested in the life of our village — the organizer and teacher of a large adult Sunday school class—and having a part in every movement for the benefit of his home town, Mr. Taylor was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and was frequently spoken of as Ballston's first citizen.

"Another honored citizen who became distinguished in public life was James M. Cook. A member of the Constitutional convention of 1846, he was one of the leaders of that eminent body, which was styled 'the collected wisdom of the state.' As state senator for several terms; state treasurer; state comptroller, and superintendent of the state banking department for a number of years, he served his constituents and the state at large, with signal

ability. He organized the first bank in the village, and was its president for twenty years. He was also one of our leading manufacturers, and contributed in no small degree to the prosperity of the community.

"Joel Lee, one of the earliest residents was twice elected to the assembly; postmaster for thirty-six years, and a leading merchant for half a century. James W. Horton, a name familiar all over Saratoga county, was for thirty-nine years county clerk, holding the office at the time of his death. Neil Gilmour, school commissioner, and for nine years state superintendent of public instruction. Isaiah Blood, manufacturer, state senator and assemblyman; George W. Chapman, canal commissioner and assemblyman; George West, manufacturer, assemblyman and representative in Congress; George G. Scott, judge of the county courts, state senator, assemblyman and supervisor for nineteen years; John W. Thompson, surrogate twelve years, and bank president for forty years.

"A long list of men distinguished for high character and marked efficiency. Successful in their private business, faithful in the discharge of public duty, their names are held in honored remembrance.

"No less honorable and distinguished have been the members of the legal profession. Time will permit only the briefest mention. From the earliest days to the present time we recall the names of Samuel Cook, Levi Palmer, Anson Brown, William A. Beach, born in Ballston Spa, a leader of the bar of the United States; a pleader and an orator of rare gifts, who had few equals. William T. Odell, district attorney; George G. Scott, county judge; John Brotherson, Seth Whalen, C. C. Hill, David Maxwell, John C. Booth; T. F. Hamilton and John Person, district attorneys—all men of more than ordinary legal attainments, and highly respected as citizens.

"Among the physicians, who enter more closely into the home life of a community than the members of any other profession, have been Samuel Freeman, John H. Steele, A. J. Chadsey, Charles Andrus, Leverett Moore—for more than half a century the leading physician of our village; Drs. Noxon, Sherman, Weed and Lawrence.

"In the sacred calling of the ministry are such distinguished names as Elias Lee, Norman Fox, Elias H. Johnson, professor in Crozer Theological Seminary; Samuel Irenaeus Prime, David Tully, Drs. A. R. Olney and S. A. Hayt; Bishop Worthington, Drs. Babcock, Geer, Delafield and Pelletreau; Drs. Robinson, Squires, Loomis, Coleman, Washburn, Russum, Zweifel, Smith and Hall; Fathers Havermans, Cull, Lowery and McDonough.

"And among the members of the press, who have done much to mould the character of our village life are James Comstock, Ulysses F. Doubleday, Horatio Gates Spafford, the eminent historian, and Henry L. Grose, for forty years editor of the Ballston Journal, one of the oldest of our institutions, having celebrated its centennial nine years ago.

"We should be remiss did we not mention Ballston's celebrated schools of earlier years, before the present system of high schools had been inaugurated.

"Rev. Darius O. Griswold, Lebbeus Booth, Rev. Deodatus Babcock, and sons, John and Theodore, John W. Fowler, the brilliant lawyer and founder of the National Law School in the old Sans Souci; James Gilmour, Nathaniel J. and Charles D. Seely, were men eminent in their profession, of broad culture and great learning. Their schools were notable for thoroughness and efficiency.

"And so I might continue almost indefinitely, but I must forbear, simply mentioning the names of some of our most prominent business men which are entitled to a place in our village 'hall of fame.'

"Beginning with the incorporation of the village, and continuing down through the years we find the names of Epenetus White, the first merchant in the village; Joel Lee, Moses Williams, Reuben and John H. Westcot, Eli Barnum, Archy Kasson, Joseph Jennings, the McMasters, James Merrill, Joshua B. Aldridge, Samuel and Andrew Smith, Reuben Sears, the Allcott brothers, S. B. Medbery, Edward W. Lee, Lemet Williams, W. K. Booth, A. D. W. Garrett, L. W. Bristol, Samuel Gould, C. M. Noxon, H. Crapo, Arnold Harris, William Brown, C. F. Wiley, W. A. Laflin, O. D. Vaughn, James F. Peckham, W. W. Arnold, John Wait, Samuel H. Cook, Jonas A. Hovey, Eli Settle, Hiro Jones, John McLean and the Luthers—but I must refrain, though the roll is far from complete.

"Before introducing the orator of the day, permit me to refer to some events worthy your attention. Since 1807, remarkable discoveries have been made, and the last one hundred years may very properly be called the wonder-century of the world's history.

"Others may speak of the marvellous deeds of this marvellous age—may I recall some occurrences of local interest? The second railroad in the state was built from Schenectady to Ballston, and the third from Troy to Ballston, the first railway train arriving in the village in 1832. Prior to that time two lines of post coaches, one to Albany and one to Schenectady carried the thousands of summer visitors to Ballston and Saratoga.

"In 1853 the first telegraph office was opened, and the Ballston Journal said: 'With proper encouragement on the part of our citizens the office will be sustained, and may even be made profitable.' The first paper bags were made in this village, and the first paper collars and cuffs were made by L. M. Crane, who lived here, his mill being located about two miles north of the village.

"Timothy Bailey, the inventor of the knitting machine, which revolutionized that business, was one of our respected citizens.

"The telegraph instrument in universal use today and which supplemented the original Morse machines, was the invention of our townsman, Samuel F. Day, who also discovered the method of telegraphing with safety during thunderstorms.

"The first machine for making paper bags was invented in our village, and the first machine for combining paper with cloth was the invention

of one of the proprietors of the Glen Paper Collar Company of Ballston Spa. The first household clothes-wringers were made in West Milton and sold in Ballston Spa.

"In the never-ceasing activities of our business life; amid the scenes of festivity; or in the more quiet pleasures of the home circle, has the patriotic spirit of our people lain dormant? Far from it—let the record of the years make answer. In Revolutionary times, surrounded by tories and no less hostile Indians, who threatened the widely scattered cabin homes of the hardy frontiersmen, many loyal men joined the patriot forces in the field, and those as a testimony of the loyalty and devotion of Ballston's patriotic heroes.

"A peculiar honor fell to our village in the following incident, eloquently told by another: 'When treason was sprouting forth in its first uprising at Charleston, an officer of the United States Army walking boldly forth in the streets of that city, with a proud manhood that should give everlasting honor to his name, denounced it openly and bravely. Gladly he answered the call of duty to his flag and his country. The firing upon the flag at Fort Sumter found him at his post; he fired the first gun in the defense of the Union and the flag; and this was

"A BOWER OF ELMS"—HIGH STREET.

who remained were to be found enrolled in the Committee of Safety, ever watchful and prompt to defeat the disloyal schemes of their traitorous neighbors, and aiding by every means in their power the cause of liberty.

"Again in 1812, Ballston hears its country's call, and many of her noble sons march to the conflict. And in 1847 a heroic band of young men from our village join the forces of Scott and Taylor in Mexico; and in yonder cemetery an imperishable monument erected by our citizens, perpetuates the memory of those who found a soldier's grave on the battlefields of Vera Cruz and Churubusco.

"And in that tremendous conflict between North and South, which was to make our country the land of the free in very deed as well as name—the Civil War of '61 to '65—more than two hundred brave boys marched forth from our village in defense of the Union, and the splendid monument in the heart of our village shall stand through the ages a son of Ballston—born in yonder house near the Sans Souci—General Doubleday, then captain of the First Artillery of the United States Army stationed at Fort Sumter. Honor to Doubleday—honor to Ballston.'

"And once more, when war was declared against Spain, for the liberation of Cuba, 'the pride of the Antilles,' from centuries of oppression, honor comes to our village through one of her brave sons. Among the company which in 1847 joined the United States Army in Mexico, was William H. McKittrick, and when President Lincoln called for volunteers in '61, McKittrick was one of the first of Ballston's young men to respond to the country's call. He lost his life gallantly leading his company to the assault, in the battle of Chapin's Farm, in Virginia. Here, in his home, his widow and a young son and a daughter survived. A mere lad at the time of the Civil War, Will McKittrick, grown to man's estate, is commissioned a captain of volunteers on the staff

of Major-General Shafter, and bravely bears his part in the battles around Santiago; and when victory perches upon our banners, it is Captain McKittrick's hand which hoists aloft for the first time on Cuban soil, the stars and stripes over the government building in Santiago.

"Once more honor comes to a Ballston boy, and to Ballston Spa, as 'Old Glory' proudly waves in the breeze, proclaiming liberty to a long-suffering people. And thus it has ever been since that memorable victory on the heights of old Saratoga in 1777. The spirit of '76 and of '61 still survives in the heart of every loyal American.

"One other reference and I will give way. Ballston Spa has witnessed other centennials within its borders. The centennial of American Independence in 1876; of Christ Church in 1887; of the Baptist Church in 1891, and of the Ballston Journal in 1898. The most celebrated of all was the semi-centennial of American Independence in 1826.

"Hon. John W. Taylor delivered the oration on this occasion, and I find no more fitting words with which to close than the words of that distinguished statesman, Ballston's illustrious son, as he finished an oration remarkable for its choice rhetoric and eloquent periods. Mr. Taylor said:

"I should illy requite the breathless attention of this crowded audience were I to weary it with details of those facts which compose our history. But before I close, permit me to add that as citizens of New York we have especial cause for gratitude and joy. At the adoption of the Federal Constitution this State was inferior in political power to three members of the Confederacy. It was equal only to the fourth. Her population and wealth have long since placed her at the head of the union. The successful application of steam to the purpose of navigation, and the construction of the Erie and Champlain canals, which have illustrated her annals are events too immensely important to our nation and to the world to pass this day without honorable mention. These monuments, the glory of our state and of the age, conquering time and annihilating space, will remain while the elements endure, diffusing unnumbered blessings to the human race. The men whose genius planned; whose intellect directed; whose perseverance accomplished them, have earned a most enviable fame. Their names will be transmitted to posterity high on the roll of public benefactors. What though our politics have been termed ferocious, and the fluctuations of our parties derided! What though slanders, propagated by some in error, by others in design, occasionally assail our public men, and may for a time diminish confidence in their talents or integrity. These partial evils, perhaps necessarily incident to our free institutions, are but the spots on our sun's disc, which, unseen or disregarded by the myriads who rejoice in its light and are warmed by its beams, subtract little from its matchless effulgence. But the public works of our State, the magnificent metropolis and flourishing villages, her ever multiplying institutions for charity, for science, for the arts, for social improvements, 'these,' in the language of a living statesman, have gone on, are going on, and I trust will go on, in the attainment of these great objects of social organization."

"THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER."

At the conclusion of Judge L'Amoreaux's address a chorus of one hundred and fifty children from the public schools, under the direction of Mr. Edward F. Grose, and accompanied by Doring's Band, sang "The Star Spangled Banner." It was a beautiful thought to have the children take part in the exercises, and their clear, sweet voices rising in the patriotic strains of the national anthem gave added inspiration to the occasion.

THE ORATION.

President L'Amoreaux then introduced General Horatio C. King, of New York City, who delivered the Centennial Oration. Mr. King spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—Civic pride is the basis of good government. 'It's a mean bird that fouls its own nest' should be posted over the portals of every legislative body and hung on the walls of every public office. The safety and perpetuity of a Republican form of government rests solely upon an honest administration of public affairs. The rapid increase of graft bodes ill for the Nation, and the necessity for a higher standard of civic morals is too manifest to require argument. Honesty in commercial affairs is everywhere demanded, and the man who robs and cheats his neighbor, even if he escapes the penalty of the law, is speedly ostracised and driven from the marts of trade. Strangely enough, the high standard of morality demanded in private transactions does not seem to be required in public office and hundreds of men who have successfully filched from the public till are still sustained by partisan followers who have been or expect to be recipients of political favors. The City of Dublin proposes to extend the great honor of the Freedom of the City to a self-exiled satrap of New York City, a sudden multi-millionaire, who has never yet been able to answer the potent and pungent question, 'Where did you get it?' The revelations of the past few years have astounded the world and the end is not yet. The Mayor of San Francisco is convicted of black-mail, and his maker, and confederate, a political boss is a self-confessed extortioner, while a large number of hitherto respected and influential citizens have been indicted as wholesale bribers to secure public franchises. The State Capitol at Harrisburg will stand as a perpetual monument of swindling that make the New York County Court House and Bill Tweed shrink to pigmies in comparison. But these cases are not exceptional. Scarcely an important city throughout the United States is free from the plunder of unprincipled men, who, while they would scorn to steal from their neighbors, are conscienceless in their larcenies from the public funds. Vast

corporations bribe legislative bodies and municipal, to secure unfair concessions, and some have attained such far reaching power as to defy the law and practically assume the position of that first great plunderer, with the query, 'What are you going to do about it?' Political parties, especially in great cities, select for their candidates not men who are above suspicion, but rather those who are 'available,' which is interpreted in the political vernacular to mean those who are vulnerable or ready and pliant tools of the machine.

"That graft has become so wide-spread is due to the inertness and non-resistance of the great mass of the people who happily are still honest. They stand idly by and suffer the dishonest minority to continue their nefarious practices until some great rascality arouses them to action, and when the explosion is over they again fall back into their habits of listlessness and apparent unconcern. They neglect the ounce of prevention which is better than a pound of cure. These occasional spasms of reform are but a temporary check to the encroachments of the undesirable citizens who repossess themselves of the civic machinery and continue their nefarious work.

"Happily for the welfare of the nation, the great crimes against the body politic are chiefly in the large cities. The country at large is honest. Those whom the immortal Lincoln was wont to call the Common People still cherish honesty, not because it is the best policy but because it is right. Lincoln said he was sure God must love the Common People, because he made so many of them, and certain it is that to them we must look in largest measure for the preservation of those traditions and that integrity which are the rock of our foundation. Religion and education are the twin sisters of civilization, nor can too much stress be laid upon the former.

"Said Washington in his farewell address, which though much neglected is still a potent chart for our guidance; 'Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with public and private felicity. Let it simply be asked, where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles. It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who that is a sincere friend to it, can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?'

"But, why, I hear you say, this seemingly irrelevant thesis on public and individual morality? Because, I answer, I see here a civic pride which augurs well for the community and the happiness and prosperity of the beautiful village whose Centennial Anniversary we celebrate to-day.

"Just why you should send for me, a resident of the great metropolis, to sound your praises I am at a loss to comprehend, unless it be that an innate modesty restrains you from blowing your own trumpet. Possibly you are not mindful of that proverb, which I would not care to attribute to Solomon, that 'he who bloweth not his own horn, by no man shall his horn be blown?' Yet I am sure there are those of your own residents better fitted for the pleasant task than myself, nor can I expect to do more than to present to you a brief summary of a thrice told tale, so fully and so ably given in your excellent local papers.

"Saratoga county is probably the most widely known county in this country, for Saratoga has been a household word since the important battle of the Revolution which was the beginning of the end of the English rule over the Colonies. That battle holds a conspicuous place in English as well as American History, for it was practically a Waterloo to British hopes. It was the turning point in the Revolutionary struggle. New York City as well as the adjacent counties was held by the British troops. Sir Henry Clinton with a fleet of transports was about to ascend the Hudson. Another British force under St. Leger was to land at Oswego and march down the Mohawk Valley. Burgoyne, covered with laurels because of his brilliant services in Spain, with an army of Spanish-war veterans, moved down the upper Hudson to effect a junction with Clinton and St. Leger. This combined movement it was expected would crush Gates and terminate the rebellion. But Providence favored the coming nation. Clinton was laggard and St. Leger was held up at Fort Stanwix by our forces. The undisciplined Continentals in their ragged regimentals moved out to meet Burgoyne's disciplined regulars and within twelve miles of this spot on the plains of Saratoga, they met, they saw, they conquered. The encouragement given to the feeble colonies by this event cannot be over-estimated. Surely Ballston Spa has a right to a full share in the glory of this achievement.

"It is interesting to note here that Saratoga derived its name from a town on the Hudson, Schuylerville, formerly known as Saraghtoga, an Indian name signifying 'Swift Water' to distinguish it from the still waters which there begin. The patent of Kayaderosseras which included this land was granted by Queen Ann and contained about 400,000 acres. Under a partition in 1770, the tract embracing the Saratoga Springs fell to Rip Van Dam, and that at Ballston Spa to Major Bickley, two of the original patentees.

"Saratoga county for one hundred years formed a part of Albany county and was set off as a separate county in 1791. This was once a part of the

domain of the Mohawk Indians and here, and hearabouts many bloody conflicts were had between that powerful tribe and the Canada or Northern Indians known as the Hurons, the Algonquins and the Adirondacks."

At this point Gen. King gave a brief historical sketch of the village, which is omitted here. Continuing, the speaker said:

"But I must leave to the historians with more time and space than can be properly used in an address of this character the pleasant duty of elaborating the meagre outline I have given of this delightful spot, which is an honor to the great Empire State, whose praises we are happy to sing, and of the great country of which, although not blind to its shortcomings, we have good reason to be proud.

"No novel ever so stirred the indignation of the American people as Martin Chuzzlewit. Although Dickens had ridiculed the weakness of his own nation and citizens with unsparing and unequalled pungency, our vanity winced under the lash when it was applied to ourselves, but the caricature was not overdrawn, and the reader of that remarkable novel will enjoy and laugh heartily over the truthful exposition of our national freshness and tendency to boast.

"What are you thinking of so steadily?" said Martin to Mark Tapley.

"Why, I was thinking, sir," returned Mark, "that if I was a painter and was called upon to paint the American eagle, how should I do it?"

"Paint it as like an eagle as you could, I suppose."

"No," said Mark, "that wouldn't do for me, sir. I should want to draw it like a Bat for its short sightedness; like a Bantam for its bragging; like a Magpie, for its honesty; like a Peacock, for its vanity; like an Ostrich, for its putting its head in the mud and thinks nobody sees it."

"And like a Phoenix, for its power of springing from the ashes of its faults and vices, and soaring up anew into the sky!" said Martin. "Well, Mark, let us hope so."

The unexampled prosperity of this great nation in the short period of a century and a quarter of growth may well turn the heads of the people and make them shut their eyes to many dangers which threaten the stability of the republic. With an overweening consciousness of the inherent strength of a self-governing community, as manifested in the great war, we are prone to stand idly by and permit the approach and encroachments of evils which, if not resisted and overcome, will sap the morality and destroy the life of the body politic. It is all very well to swell with patriotic pride, wave the American Flag wildly about our heads and shout until we are hoarse: "We are Americans," but it is worth while once in a while to subdue our enthusiasm long enough to examine the old flag carefully and see if there are not some spots and blemishes that disfigure the stripes and dim the lustre of its forty-five stars.

"Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us
To see ourselves as ithers see us,
It wad frae monie a blunder free us,
and foolish notion."

May we not then with profit spend a few moments more in contemplating some of the evils which beset us?

In the lecture room of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, hangs the portrait of a prominent member, and framed with it is this autograph letter of the great English philosopher, Herbert Spencer. It is in reply to a scheme to bring about a better understanding between the capitalists and the workingmen. He writes in terms ultra-pessimistic but nevertheless worthy of the most careful consideration. Here it is:

Fairfield, Pewsey, Wilts,
May 28, 1864.

Dear Mr. Skilton:

I believe I wished you good speed in your enterprise, but I believe your enterprise is futile. In the United States as here and elsewhere the movement towards dissolution of existing social forms and reorganization on a socialistic basis, I believe to be irresistible. We have bad times before us and you have still more dreadful times before you—civil war, immense bloodshed and eventually military despotism of the severest type.

Truly yours,
HERBERT SPENCER.

The two great problems now confronting this nation are the aggressions of greedy and unprincipled corporations and great combinations of capital, and on the other hand the tyranical oppression of labor unions, whose unreasonable demands and reckless conduct as particularly disclosed in the awful revelations in the trial at Boise City, have brought shame and reproach upon our fair name. In some sense the latter are the logical result of the former, but in this law-abiding and peace-loving country force is not justifiable and must be suppressed at all hazards.

The revelations of so-called high finance during the past year have shocked the moral sense of the public in the great agregate, for taking the nation as a whole, the people are honest and they mean that the dangerous few who think money is supreme and can do anything shall be taught respect for law or be treated as common criminals. The rich man who steals a railroad must fare no better than the thief who cracks a safe. Indeed, he should fare worse, since by education and environment he is better informed and should have a higher appreciation of his duty as a citizen.

The lax corporation laws of some of the states have made easy robbery of the people by wholesale issues of watered stock.

The issuing of $75,000,000 of capital stock for property purchased at $39,000,000, as in the notorious copper scandal, is a pungent case in point. So the operations in the Chicago & Alton Railroad stock of recent memory awakened still further the sense of insecurity which is shaking our financial system to its very centre. I admire and approve the sen-

timent of the editor of the Norfolk, Va., Pilot, who declares that, "It was plunder pure and simple and those who committed and benefitted by it differ from the ordinary robber and thief only in the size of the theft."

With these and hundreds of like demonstrations of the greed of wealth, is it any wonder that there has been such a marvelous increase in socialism in the past decade? When Tom Watson ran for President, his small vote provoked only a simple smile. But the enormous socialist vote at the last Presidential election made a profound impression and has awakened the sober-minded to the gravity of the national peril.

"BROOKSIDE." THE IRON SPRING, DISCOVERED IN 1874.

Let me in passing say, however, that I am not in sympathy with the reckless attack upon all corporations because of the venality of a comparatively few. The recent wholesale reduction of railroad fares to two cents a mile without proper examination and careful investigation is a legislative "play to the galleries," and I am glad our honored Governor Hughes had the courage to veto that measure in our state. Corporations have rights which the people are bound to respect, and action against them should follow only the due and orderly process of law.

There is still another prominent menace of equal if not greater import to the welfare and continued existence of the republic. Of this let me say a word:

Primarily I state that I have always encouraged combinations of labor, for the betterment of the condition of the laboring men, the bone and sinew of the nation. Labor unions are a moral force that have greatly elevated the conditions of laboring men. I differ with them only when they transgress the law and endeavor to enforce their demands by mob methods. When they reach this point they are a menace and must be restrained.

Says Utterman, a socialist editor and leader (by the way, we find our socialist agitators chiefly among the foreign imports): "It is the capitalist class that incites hatred by vulgar display of wealth in the face of the suffering multitude. It is the capitalists class that destroys the homes and families of the workers and confiscates the property of millions. It is the injunction, the bullet, the bull pen, the police club and the militia laws that speak the language of hatred and passion." Let me digress to say that as soon as a socialist lays up enough money to buy a little home, he ceases to be a socialist. He becomes a capitalist. Such false sentiments represent not socialism but anarchism, pure and simple. They strike at the very foundations of law and order and would overturn and destroy all those methods indispensable to peace and the proper conduct of civil administration. It may be well, however, to pause for a moment to answer the charge that the capitalist is the destroyer of homes by recalling the fact that in 1890 over six million families owned their homes, either free of debt or partially paid for, while in 1900 the number had increased to over seven and a quarter millions, or a gain of 1,192,362 in ten years, or at a rate of over 100,000 a year. It is a rather significant fact also that on the east side in New York City, the homes

of wage earners chiefly, one New York piano firm alone had sold 2,500 pianos on the installment plan.

It is claimed by those well informed that in eighty per cent. of the leading strikes in this country, the question was not one of wages and hours merely, but a demand for the recognition of the union, and yet only about twenty per cent. of the wage earners in this land are members of union organizations.

The constitutional right of every man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness cannot be impeached, and the right of every man to work for whom he pleases, where he pleases and for what he pleases is fundamental and inalienable. It is the very foundation stone of our republic, and it is going to be maintainecd, as was the Union, by force if necessary. And it will be upheld by the laboring classes themselves, who are the most deeply concerned in the preservation of their individual liberty. For those who would take away this inestimable right are in a small minority, not exceeding twenty per cent., and the eighty per cent. of law-abiding, liberty-loving American freemen, slow to anger, will in due time rise in their might and crush out the rabid, vicious, turbulent and quasi anarchistic element. I think it will be accomplished by peaceable methods, but if force should be necessary, the nation can look to wage earners to establish their God-given right, guaranteed by the Constitution.

The attempt to exclude from the unions public spirited men who choose to serve their state and nation as members of the National Guard received a prompt and almost universal rebuke. It served to open the eyes of the people to the aggressive encroachments of labor, and to cause a closer inspection of the unlawful regulations by which many of the organizations seek to achieve their ends. Employers driven into a corner have at last met a combination by combination, and employees must recede from their unlawful positions or take the consequences. The better element, which is in the majority, must assert their power and put down the mob spirit. This is the United States of America, in which every man is personally interested in maintaining good government and the rule of the majority.

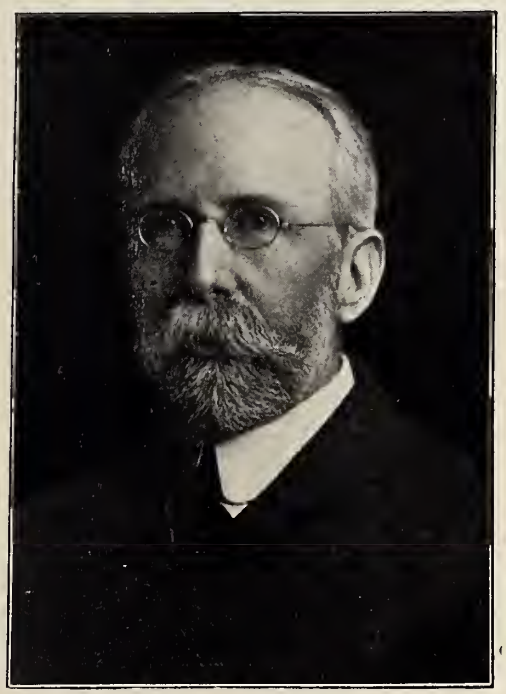
The strained relations between employers and employees in most of our large cities is most deplorable. In San Francisco, the unions have complete control, capital is diverted and building operations in a large measure paralyzed. In Chicago the mob spirit is general, and even the courts are blocked in their efforts to punish conspiracy, by the refusal of the officers of labor unions to produce their minutes and regulations on the ground that such production would tend to incriminate them. In a recent editorial the Brooklyn Eagle, which stands pre-eminent as a fearless denunciator of mob law, thus sums up the situation: "When people cannot bury their dead because of a union of hack drivers, when pickets of unions are placed about the tombs, when mourners have to carry pistols to defend their lives, when the life of a man is not safe unless he carries a union card, when a man who can earn five dollars a day is forced down to a level with the $2.50 man, and vice versa; when individual skill is discounted and a dead monotony of ability, or disability is sought, when law is defied, and the militia, the arm of law, is flouted; when organization of labor has fallen to a mere conspiracy for graft, we are in danger of being reduced to the condition of Australia, where socialism and unionism have impoverished the land, driven out the best people and caused the loss of its commercial supremacy." And this leads me to speak of the attitude of the press—a very considerable portion of which fans the flames of discord, and lends encouragement to lawlessness. The press is aptly described as the palladium of our liberty, and its freedom cannot be circumscribed. That is the popular idea and the proper idea within constitutional limits. But licentiousness and license are not synonymous terms, and much of the journalism which is fitly described as yellow, has no proper place in this republic. Its efforts to create class distinctions, to array the poor or those of moderate means against the rich, and to pander to the lowest passions of the vicious in inciting to hatred and revenge, are borne with too much patience by our law makers and by the public generally. Occasionally the people are aroused to a high pitch of indignation as, for instance, when our lamented President McKinley, honored and beloved by all, was assassinated. The wave of indignation which swept over this country extended even to the remotest nations, soon to subside without bringing about a practical result. Congress foamed, fomented, frittered and fizzled. Editors who went into hiding emerged from their lairs in due season and resumed their insidious work. And the order loving people in almost hopeless amazement, cry out on the streets, "How long! oh Lord, how long!"

But someone will ask, what remedy do you suggest? I answer in a sentence, a better application of the great commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." If this be chimerical, then let the work continue and more generously in the direction of betterments for labor, better understanding between man and man, employer and employees, and mutual concessions which may be concluded through the medium of arbitration. One thing is certain, unionism which backs up its aggressions with dynamite cannot long exist under Republican skies, nor can it long survive a coalition with socialism and anarchy.

The need of the hour is men, unselfish, broad-minded, fearless and incorruptible men in every walk of life. In the stirring lines of Dr. Holland:

"God give us men! a time like this demands
Great hearts, strong minds, true faith, and willing hands;
Men whom the lust of power does not kill,
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinion and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie,
For while the rabble, with their thumbworn creeds,
Their large professions and their little deeds,
Wrangle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land, and waiting Justice sleeps."

After a selection by Doring's Band, Judge L'Amoreaux introduced as the poet of the celebration, Rev. Howard B. Grose, D.D., of New York. Mr. Grose read his Centennial Ode in a very felicitous style, and held the close attention of the great assemblage.



REV. H. B. GROSE, D.D.

THE CENTENNIAL ODE.

BY HOWARD B. GROSE.

I

Fair Ballston, hail! On this centennial day,
Let heartfelt gladness every bosom sway.
With eager feet thy loyal sons and daughters
Haste home again, to drink thy mineral waters,
Revisit scenes familiar, greet old friends;
For long forgetfulness make due amends,
Renew old ties, and prove it true
That presence and not distance 'tis that lends
Enchantment to the village and the view.

II

'Tis well we gather to re-tell
The stories of the bygone days,
While nimble fancy 'round us plays,
And years like morning mists dispel.
Bear with me, then, as with my verse
I bring the poet's laurel bays
And crown the village with our praise.

III

Centennial odes have, I suppose, their uses,
Altho I'm not quite certain what they are:
They may have also, surely, their abuses,
If solemn odist carry them too far.
Since most such odes are mournful, I shall scout 'em,
We've all come home to have a jolly time;
Poetical rhapsodies—I don't know much about 'em—
I have to offer but a homey rhyme.
The poets, of course, begin with bells wild ringing,
Fond fancies trooping thro' the golden days,
Sweet music swelling, cycles swiftly swinging,
While nature softly croons her hymns of praise,
And so they soothe you with their sibilant singing,
And leave you, as to meaning, in a haze.

'Tis easy task to preach to bearded men—
But oh, if we could be but boys again,
With youthful ardor, aims, ambitions, zest—
Of all things possible, that's surely best.
We never lose our hold on life's real joys
While we can love, and live, and play like boys.
Then do not think undignified these fragmentary rhymes
Which seek to bring us back once more to scenes of earlier times.

IV

In the days before the White Man
Made this continent his dwelling,
Here where Ballston now is situate
Long the Red Man had dominion.
Favorite hunting grounds of Mohawks,
Here the warriors of the nation
Sought their summer recreation.
Paddling down the Mohawk river,
Thro the Eel Creek to the Long Lake,
(Ballston Lake we know it better),
On whose shores they made encampment.

East Line Corners was the centre
Of their hunting, trapping, fishing.
Favorite hunting ground was Ballston—
Wooded hill and watered valley,
With its clearing by the waters.
Here they fished and trapped and feasted,
Unmolested, save when Hurons
From the north, or Adirondacks,
Swept down on them. Then fierce conflict.
Here the Mohawks laid their ambush
By the Mourning Kill, and waited.
When the Algonquins on the warpath
Reached the fatal spot, the Mohawks
Slew them all without compassion.
Long the Indians mourned their brothers,
Each year coming back to mourn them.
"Mourning Kill" the name arising
From this ancient Indian custom,
Still persisting when the white men
Held the lands where once the Mohawks
Wandered free in sole possession.
Sad the story how the settlers
Without justice seized the title,
Force and fraud and usurpation
Weapons of their choice and using
To despoil their dusky victims.
Wherefore wonder at the hatred,
Massacres and frequent horrors;
To the God of even justice

REV. H. B. GROSE READING THE CENTENNIAL ODE.

White and Red Man both have answered.
Long ago the warriors vanished,
Like their hunting grounds and forests,
Seized for home of hardy settlers,
Cleared for tillage and for village;
Savage giving place to farmer,
Hunter to the smith and tradesman,
Pagan to believing Christian,
Bloody fued to law and order.

V

Two hundred years! A wilderness
With here and there a clearing;
The white man stern in storm and stress,
The Red Man fierce yet fearing.

By sixteen hundred eighty-four
The British crown gave title
To Indian lands, whence bloody war
With all their grim recital.

Dutch Peter Schuyler and his friends
Took Saratoga county,
Through Patents which advanced their ends
And drew the royal bounty.

In seventeen hundred eight, the date
Of white claim to this section,
The grafters grabbed their real estate
Under Queen Anne's protection.

To Nanning Hermance fell the grant
Kay-a-derosseras,
Name of the "crooked stream" along
Whose banks we loved to pass.

The cheated Mohawks ne'er forgave
The whites who stole their lands,
And many a settler found a grave
At their avenging hands.

Sir William Johnson, governor,
True nobleman and great,
Did much to end the Indian war,
Their hatred to abate.

We picture him, the noble knight,
The Red Man's friend so true,
Seeking to bring about the right
And give each race its due.

Tortured with gout, through forest maze
He seeks the healing spring,
By trails the friendly Indians blaze
His journey hastening.

VI

The legend of Tom Connor shows how one undaunted son
Of Ballston town once faced the great and good George Washington.
In seventeen hundred eighty-three, in search of brief release
From cares of camp headquarters and the men who never cease
To press their claims for place and pelf, the continental chief
Mapped out a tour of battle fields, as measure of relief.
Included in his party, on this northern outing tour,
Were New York's Governor Clinton, statesman strong and true and pure,
And Alexander Hamilton, most brilliant of men
Who founded firm the Union—New York's foremost citizen;
With Colonels Fish and Humphrey as the military guides,
Along the Hudson's wooded banks the little party rides.
From Newburg north they wend their way to that famed battle field
Where British Burgoyne, caught and caged, his army had to yield.
Then on to beautiful Lake George, Crown Point, Ticonderoga,
Where Yankee grit began the triumphs crowned at Saratoga.
Let fancy frame for you the thoughts that thrilled those noble souls
As they beheld the ground where men, whose names fill patriot rolls,
Laid down their lives for liberty, and by their consecration
Made possible what we enjoy—this free and mighty nation.
Thence turning homeward, they bethought their pilgrimage to make
To Saratoga's High Rock Spring—there nature's thirst to slake.
As appetite but grows, in truth, by that on which 'tis fed,
So grew their thirst for living springs, and toward our spring they sped.
The plan included lunch, with General Gordon as the host,
But forest mazes interfered, and soon the group was lost.
The Middle Line eluded them, and when they struck a trail
It led to Factory Village, and the hero of our tale.

Tom Conner—hardy settler—was a typical pioneer,
Who asked no favor and who knew of man or beast no fear.
His sounding axe gave guidance to his rude log cabin door;
And as all men were *men* to Tom, he saw in them no more
Than common mortals who were lost in wild, unsettled section;
So, answering their queries, he gave requisite direction;
Then went on with his chopping, while the party rode away,
The busy woodsman ignorant of greatness seen that day.
But presently they came again, to seek for further light,
Since crossing trails bewildered them, and hunger was in sight.
This time 'twas Washington himself, who asked, with courtly grace,
Particular directions as to route they must retrace.
"I tell ye—turn back, take first right, then stick to it; and, say,

Ye must be mighty stupid—any darned fool 'd know
the way!"
And thus it was, his temper lost, that hasty-tongued
Tom Conner
Addressed the great commander whom the world
unites to honor.
When, later, Tom discovered who his visitors had
been,
He hung his head in bitter consternation and cha-
grin;
And long was he tormented by his jeering neigh-
bors on
His cavalier "reception" of lost General Washington.
The latter took the right-hand path, the spring was
soon in sight,
And all drank of the waters with an undisguised
delight.
Later, at General Gordon's long and heartily they
laughed,
As at the dinner, toasting him, Tom Conner's health
they quaffed.

VII

Balls-town, Ball-town, Ballston Spa—
These by turns the village name,
From Eliphalet Ball, the pioneer,
Who in 1770 hither came.
Minister he of the manly mold
That knows no failure and no fear,
Subduing nature, reliant, bold,
He finds in the wilderness his sphere.
With him he brought of his former fold
A goodly group, to surround him here.
Three sons had he, and a daughter, too,
Who married a Gordon, Scotchman true.
Gordon Creek to his name is due.
Four hundred acres the landlords gave
To induce the parson their souls to save.
Scotch Presbyterian he, and blue,
Scotch and North Irish folk he drew,
Sturdy stock—and the settlement grew.
They built the Red Meeting House, and there
All gathered for worship, praise and prayer.
In 1775 their creed
The right of conscience free declared,
On this great principle agreed,
A common brotherhood they shared.
'Twas Ballston Center where their acres lay,
The springs made village centre far away.

VIII

Due praise to him who saved the spring—
To him be votive offering.
Beriah Palmer, as he came surveying,
In 1771 reached High Street hill,
Thirsty and weary; quick his gaze went straying
Over the hemlock forest, dense and still;
In vale below he spied the Indian clearing
Thro which there ran, like line of light,
The Gordon creek, whose waters sparkling bright
Promised the sought refreshment. Thither nearing,
Strolling along the banks, by happy chance
He found the ancient spring the Indians knew,
And held as sacred as their sun-god dance;
The iron spring which Johnson visited,
When by his gouty humors sore bestead.
To Palmer's wit we owe the spring's existence.
He stopped fresh water o'erflow from the creek,
Dug clay from nearby bank, and by persistence
Built log hut, chinked it tight, and thus his quick
And skilful action saved to future ages
The living waters which our thirst assuages.

IX

Soon visitors came, some through the forest
tramping,
By rumor drawn to seek the famous Well;
Others to hunt and fish, and here encamping,
A few deciding in the place to dwell.
In 1787, with eye to profit,
Benajah Douglas bought a tract near by,
And when the water drew the crowds to quaff it
They found a welcome at his hostelry.
The Brookside of to-day was his grand mansion,
The Public Well now caught the public eye,
The hamlet entered on its real expansion,
And Ballston Spa soon found its glory nigh.
New springs were opened, new hotels were builded,
Fashion began to come, and money flew,
The hopes of residents with golden hue were gilded,
And each new season larger concourse drew.
Not only from all parts of this, from foreign lands
they came,
For worldwide then had grown to be fair Ballston's
summer fame.

X

In 1807, the charter year,
The village reached the height of its career
As fashion's favorite resort. The tide
Soon set toward Saratoga, which is now
What Ballston was a century ago.
Well for the village life this change of base,
Which swept the throngs away, and left the place
To follow out its simple ways, and be
A home from fashion freaks and follies free.

XI

Old Sans Souci! Fair Sans Souci!
Borrowed from Frederick's Germany,
What visions bright of revelry,
Of royal sport at royal court,
Are called from misty past by thee.
Not less the wit and brilliancy,
The scenes enchanted,
In fashion's new-world Sans Souci
From the old world transplanted.

White Sans Souci! Bright Sans Souci!
Brilliant with dames of high degree;
While men of fame and rank and name
To thy resort in joyance came.
At Sans Souci, from care set free,
The statesmen, scholars, men of letters,
Merchants and priests threw off their fetters
And frolicked with the belles and beaux,
Or found in nature sweet repose.

Proud Sans Souci, within thy halls
What greatness gathered! Men of state,
Moulders of thought, the list recalls:

Clay and Calhoun, Van Buren, Pierce,
Marcy and Seward, men of weight;
Louis Napoleon, prince obscure,
Later to wage a conflict fierce;
Noted names, too in literature:
Cooper, whose Indians owned the ground
Their roaming spirits lingered 'round;
And Irving, with his master touch,
Chronicling English ways or Dutch—
Witty and gay the company
That met and mingled at Sans Souci
At dawn of the nineteenth century.

Poor Sans Souci! A memory!
Naught more than that is left of thee.
Yet that still sweetly clings to me.
When longtime fashion's sway had passed
And Ladies' Seminary came,
The younger generation cast
Flirtatious eyes at beauty's flame.
But bad financing and misrule
Left Sans Souci without a school.
For time again it was hotel
Until the hand destroying fell.
That was the young folks' longed-for chance
To rent the parlors for their dance.
What hops those were! The hours were golden
Have you forgotten William Holding?
His orchestra played music rare.
Yes, true—I had the partner there
Who still my lot in life doth share.
Hail, Sans Souci! I, too, am free
From lonely lot and carking care—
And many a joy I owe to thee.

XII

A hundred years! How short the span
In view of myriad marvels wrought by man.
In eighteen hundred seven no whistle shrill
Had waked the echoes of the wood or hill;
The swiftest travel then by crawling stage,
Six miles an hour th' express of that slow age.
No car, no telegraph, no boat—
No gas, no water-works, no sewers—
No telephone or trolley—how remote
That past from our luxurious present! Yet,
All of the solid worth that now endures
Came from the hardy manhood that inures
In pioneer toil and hardship, bravely borne
With face to future. Let us not forget—
Inheritors we of that they fought to gain—
That stern privation is strong manhood's school,
Which teaches how to labor and to vote,
That no self-sacrifice for others' good is vain;
While wealth and luxury, which honest virtues scorn,
Produce the rich sons' crop—the country's bane—
Replacing men with the effeminate fool.
'Tis well to realize that electric light
Dispels no darkness of the moral night;
That all the luxuries which wealth can buy
But serve to feed the vices that make weak;
That still on simple life we must rely
For that strong, sterling character we seek
To keep our own indeed the Empire State
In all that makes a people truly great.
'Tis ours to see that changes in condition
Swerve not the commonwealth from its high mission;
That no low standards ever shall obtain
Which sacrifice the public good for private gain.
A land's true wealth is never told in dollars,
But in its poets, seers, statesmen, scholars,
The quality of its rank and file—the common folk
Who really make prosperity and worth
That give a nation prestige in the earth.
Be sure 'tis not in modern innovation
We find the highest type of civilization.
To rank a nation do not markets scan,
But find its best ideal of a man.

XIII

Turn back thy glass, O Time, and let us gaze
On village life in earlier, simpler days,
When people lived in homelike, humble ways,
Free from the madding strife and mammon-craze.

Fair Ballston, village of the hill and dale,
What tongue can tell thy rich, romantic tale?
The apt historian may well rehearse
Thy noble part in statecraft, peace, and strife;
The poet, too, may breathe in rhythmic verse
The charm and beauty of thy family life.
The village type—strong bulwark of the free—
Here find we well exemplified by thee.

XIV

Happy the village in the ministry
Of such good preacher as Elias Lee,
Who filled the pulpit with the fire that drew
A captivated audience in the pew.
Broad-minded citizen, he filled large place
With sterling piety and courtly grace.

And Deodatus Babcock, churchman zealous,
Filled well his office, as the records tell us;
And "in his duty prompt at every call,
He watched, and wept, he prayed and felt for all.
He tried each art, reproved each dull delay,
Allured to brighter worlds, and led the way."

Another eminent man, in earlier time,
The village had in Irenaeus Prime,
Who later as an editor was famed
Where'er the "Irenaeus Letters" were named.
"Truth, from his lips, prevailed with double sway,
And those who came to scoff, remained to pray."

A Ballston rector of the years agone
We honor now as Bishop Worthington.
Happy the village, let us say again,
That in its pulpits has true, godly men,
Who still proclaim in accents loud and clear
The gospel message of love, hope, faith and cheer.

XV

The village editor—in influence the peer
Of village minister—him, too, we honor here.
The strength of sound opinion rarely rises
Above the level of the weekly press,
Which, calmer than the daily, supervises
The world's affairs, and lays due weight and stress
Upon those local duties and concerns
On which, like hinges, larger issue turns.

Recorder of the village life, director of opinion,
The country editor has still a rare and wide dominion.

Pray with me bear, as here I pay son's tribute of affection,
To father who for forty years gave JOURNAL true direction.
Good man and editor was he, a patriot devoted,
He loved the truth that makes men free, the right he e'er promoted.

XVI

There was one public man Ballston gave to the nation,
Who filled an exceptional, national station.
This was John W. Taylor, for twenty years leader
In Congress, the peer of Calhoun and of Clay,
Ranked with Webster indeed as debater and pleader,
In the very front rank of the men of his day.
He was chosen as Speaker, succeeding that peerless
Parliamentary leader, Clay, who himself said,
That no man in the House was more brilliant and fearless,
More fitted than Taylor to be at the head.
As the only New Yorker e'er accorded that honor,
We our tribute now pay, as we honor our dead.

XVII

Old Ballston has reason for pride in her sons
Who have gone from her borders to city and town,
They have earned their own way and have made their home runs,
To the places of usefulness, power and renown.
At the bar, on the bench, they have gained recognition,
As doctors and surgeons they are high in their schools,
As preachers and teachers they fill large position,
In business or pleasure, they play by the rules.
We find them as winners at all the big dinners—
There is only one class they're not in—that's the fools.

XVIII

Just fifty years since first my youthful eyes
Saw Ballston's streets and scenes with awed surprise.
The boyhood home! The man who can forget it,
Has something lacking in the better part,
He who can leave the home and not regret it
How'er strong brained is sadly weak in heart.
As pass the years old places grow the dearer,
Old friends seem rarer and we prize them more;
Things that were dim to youth now shine out clearer,
Perspective now is truer than of yore.
The village life that once seemed dull and vapid
Now shows its real delights; its leisure pace
Is peace indeed to him who knows the rapid
And strenuous nature of the city's race.

The simple village life we knew from wild excesses free,
Was wholesome soil in which there grew faith, hope, and charity.

XIX

My earliest share in party predilection
Dates back to '60—Lincoln's first campaign;
Rail Splitters all we boys without defection,
The Little Giants summoned us in vain.
In uniform blue and white, beetle on shoulder—
Marching in torchlight line, proud little fellow—
How I despised the Douglas crowd! Grown older,
In journalism or party I can't bear yellow—
'Tis thus the boy's likes pass into the man's,
And bind him to his principles and clans.
But principles first, and plans and party second—
'Tis only thus to highest goal we're beckoned.
A Mugwump's one thing—true, and quite another
The man whose spear in right cause knows no brother.
To save true parties from a course descendent
We always need the fearless independent,
Who makes direct to people his appeal,
Nor doubts the verdict of their unbought will—
Which voice and votes without mistake reveal.

XX

At age of ten—wool-dyed Republican—red at that—
If you'd insult me—call me Democrat!
But time our youthful rancors doth abate,
And one can see—to remedy abuses
And keep the Republicans steady, strong and straight,
How virtuous Democrats have their proper uses.
Two parties, to say the least, are necessary—
That each may keep the other at work and wary.
But well we now discern 'twixt partisan
And that much higher type, the party man.
And more than that, we've learned that friendship hearty
Is matter of man to man—not bound by party.
As true Ballstonians we unite to champion one great cause—
A free and honest government, and equal rights and laws,
When test shall come, and city votes by fraud are cast for wrong,
In the virtue of the village we shall still be safe and strong;
'Tis to village and to country we must look for power to check
The insidious plots that seek our highest interests to wreck.

So, Governor Hughes—this personal allusion you'll excuse—
When appealing to the people, in advance you'll know our views;
Old Ballston's with you first and last, she'll stand behind you firm and fast,
In future as in glorious past—hail, Governor Hughes!

XXI

Were you a boy in '60 or thereabouts,
When war was in the air, and old Camp Cooper
Was field of glory to us—with its scouts,
Its quota of militia, gay clad trooper,
Its field maneuvres, mimic raids and routs?

Then you recall our leal and proud commander,
Our Colonel Peek, resplendent to our view,
Who in our boyish eyes was bigger man and grander
Than Grant or Lee—indeed, he looked it, too.
Who can forget that '61 November,
When Bemis Heights Battalion led the way;
Our Ballston Company B—do you remember
How fine Steve Horton, captain, looked that day?
While Colonel McKean was dazzling in the splendor
Of regimental glory and array.
Proudly he rode at head of marching column,
As to the front the Seventy-seventh pressed;
We wondered why the old folks were so solemn—
We saw alone the glitter—they the rest!
Some of us saw that side a little later,
And felt the tragedy of war's alarm—
What wonder that e'en boyhood grew sedater
At sight of big John Harlow with one arm
And empty sleeve that told its speechless story,
Which grew in horror when our brave boys fell,
When Captain McKittrick gave his life for glory,
And some came back all shattered by shot and shell.
How with hot rage our youthful hearts would thrill,
When pale and wan our heroes came,
Half dead from Andersonville,
And revealed the secrets of that awful place,
To end of time the South's shame and disgrace.

XXII

How we boys enjoyed our frolics, building wigwams in the woods,
Sometimes catching cold and colics, reckless of our ways and moods.
Now we played the noble Uncas, shrieking up Mohican hill,
Till we often fancied redskins might leap out upon us still.
Summer sports we had in plenty—coram, duckstone, two-old-cat,
Quoits and marbles, swimming, fishing—do the boys now know all that?

They tell me ruthless axe is laid
At root of trees on old Clapp's Hill—
Ah, can no vandal stroke be stayed?
Those apple trees—that used to fill
The boyish pockets, and that played
Us sometimes an internal ill.

'Twas in that orchard of the boy's delight,
On one dark, stormy, ne'er forgotten night,
Our trio, Johnson, Jones and I—got mortal fright.
The old town clock had sounded solemn ten—
I noted well the strokes—and we just then
Climbed o'er the fence, and, pockets loaded down,
Guilty of conscience, started for the town.
But see! a white horse coming—then a shout:
"Stop, boys!" Whereat we stopped not, but lit out.
Then two sharp shots rang out upon the air
And we could feel them cutting through our hair—
Each boy felt sure some vital spot was hit,
We struck a ditch, and tumbled into it.
Long there we lay, dead spent, in dread suspense,
Then homeward stole, in muddy penitence.
Those random shots, fired in the air,
Gave my poor heart such shock and scare
That, if I live to ninety-eight,
I still shall feel the rapid rate.
As to our after honesty I may not you convince,
But this is simple fact, I havn't stolen an apple since!
Ed Johnson's gone, Frank Jones is dead, and I alone remain
To tell why we ran up Clapp's Hill, and why ran down again.

XXIII

How many boyish pranks we played, and yet 'twas all good-natured fun;
If now and then we made a raid, in mischief merely it was done;
We roamed the village at our will, played ball in street without reproval,
In winter slid down Bath street hill, our only grief some boy's removal.
The sports were simpler then than now, our Independence Nine was gritty,
For one who wore a glove and mask, we should have felt contempt or pity.
He best whose hands and grit were toughest,
He first who stood the game the roughest.
Dear Ballston boys of other days, boys of my time and generation,
I see you thro time's mellow haze, and gladly hail your elevation.
You've played your parts as manly men, some of you won high recognition—
You form the class of citizen who give our country might and mission.
Dear Ballston girls—but ah, beware, e'en age of such words must be chary,
You'll let me say how passing fair you were, and sometimes also wary;
You knew us better than we thought, and led us many a lively chase,
But we were willing to be caught, and yield to spell of beauty's grace.
One thing I'll say, as general truth, (nay, do not fear, 'tis not alarming)
The Madams know it well, forsooth—that all the Ballston girls were charming.
True fifty, forty years ago—and just as true ten, twenty, thirty—
The same to-day, I'm sure, of you—charming, and casually flirty.
Had I my will, this I would do,
All my young friends of worthful lives
I'd send to Ballston for their wives.

XXIV

Those serenades on summer nights, with male and mixed quartette,—
The sounds of "Music in the Air" seem faintly wafted yet.
"Sweet Evelina" always formed a member of our chorus,
And the stars and stripes, "Say, can you see," were ever waving o'er us.
We drank "The Old Oaken Bucket" dry, "Way down on Suwanee River,"
While "Tenting To-night," "Annie Laurie" bright, and the "brook runs on forever."

I've seen the Paris Opera House, the Royal in Berlin,
The Metropolitan in New York—but none of them begin
To stir my pulses like the thought of Townsend's tragic pall
When his Canadian strollers played in our old Waverly Hall.
Comical Brown, with his twenty odd faces,
His side-splitting stories and fetching grimaces;
Where tell me, where in your new-fangled places
You'll find more amusement that's wholesome and clean—
Than in Waverly Hall in old times could be seen.

XXV

Great times we had election days,
And greater yet election nights.
Considerable ruction then we'd raise,
And keep the constables in frights.
The village fathers sought in vain
The boisterous spirits to restrain;
The bonfires burned through all restrictions,
Despite the law's stern interdictions.
Boxes and barrels high we heaped 'em,
On with the blaze, whichever party won;
Then as the flames died down the crowds o'erleaped 'em,
While fast and furious waxed the midnight fun.
All this a part of true patriot passion
Showing itself in American fashion.

XXVI

Fourth of July! Noise began long ahead of it,
Sometimes a week, and the nervous and ill,
Rightly enough had a fear and a dread of it,
Finding no spot that was restful or still.
Then, on the night before, just at the dead of it,
Burst forth the clamor, fierce, shocking and shrill.
Boom! went the cannon—Old Betsey the gun of all
Sounding the loudest and leading the noise—
Keeping the people awake was the fun of all—
Old-fashioned Fourth—the delight of the boys!

XXVII

Do you recall that dark and awful morning
When through the village ran the startling word
That our great Lincoln, without moment's warning,
Had been shot down? The people deeply stirred,
Gathered in groups, with faces drawn and white,
Mad with the rage for vengeance, eager to fight.

Ill fared it that morning with one copperhead—
Standing on steps of our office, he said:
"Served him right—down with tyrants! I'm glad he is dead!"
But the words were scarce out, when a blow knocked him down,
And an outcast, well beaten, he fled from the town.
Thereafter Ballstonians had for him no regard,
And named him in scorn and derision "Old Beauregard."

Those days full of terror and dark with suspense,
Were unpleasant enough for the man on the fence.
For the feeling was high and the ardor intense.
When the remnants of Company B came at last,
What a halo of glory enveloped their past.
Yet more honored to-day those who bear battle scar,
Warm the spot in our hearts for the old G. A. R.

XXVIII

Come, Muse, inspire me now to sing
Fit praise of thee, old Iron Spring.
Standing beside thy silent flow,
Swift memories of the long ago
Bring back again the sweet romances,
The liquid draughts and laughing glances.
But thirst assuaged, ah, who shall tell
The secrets of the leafy dell,
The evening stroll to old Red Mill,
Or moonlight meet on Uncas' hill.
What virtues in the spring resided
Perhaps will e'er be undecided,
But many a youth who did as I did,
Will ne'er forget the walks that tended
To thy cool fount; the strolls that ended
In happy hearts in union blended.
To thee the fondest memories cling,
Fountain of youth, old Iron Spring!

XXIX

Village of schools! Many still can remember
Glad days of their boyhood at Gilmour's on hill—
'Twas May with them then whereas now 'tis December,
Yet the fond recollections bring quickening thrill.
Long forgotten the lessons, the marks and the classes,
But never the skating on glarey Red Mill;
The Academy boys and the shy village lasses
Swift gliding along—I can picture them still.
The Academy's gone, and the High School replaces
The old education with many things new,
The curriculum now is as strange as the faces—
Do they learn more, I wonder, than we used to do?
More important by far, do they foster the graces
That blossom in character tender and true?

XXX

What village street in all the land surpasses
Our High Street, with its overarching boughs,
Beneath which Ballston's happy lads and lasses
Slow walking whispered soft their lover's vows.
Those lordly elms which stand so still and stately,
Could they but speak, might moonlight secrets tell
Which some, who gather here to-day sedately,
Would recognize as true but all to well.
What happy homes in tender memory rise,
As we recall the days forever gone;
Here loving hearts made earthly paradise,
Their passing leaves the hearthstone drear and lone.
Yet this no hour for sadness or for mourning,
These blest home-makers were the village pride,
Their homely virtues were her rich adorning,
Their loving spirit still doth here abide.

XXXI

Have you seen the sunset glory,
From the fence on Church Street hill?
Two it takes to tell that story,
One would see the glow but ill.

Have you rowed at summer twilight
On the stream above Blue Mill?
Two it takes to enjoy that shy light,
One would find the place too still.

Have you loitered in the gloaming
By the shallow Mourning Kill?
Two it takes to make real roaming,
One would find the pleasure *nil.*

Questions these not born of fancy,
Rather drawn from memory's store
By a lover of romance he
Fain would figure in once more.

XXXII

Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
When wealth accumulates and men decay.
So wrote the poet of an earlier day
Of his loved England. True it is the sway
Of gold means menace always to the free,
For manhood only measures liberty.
So, too, ill fares the land, to spoils a prey,
When cities grow and villages decay.
In village, as on farm, we trace the springs
Of sturdy virtue which to city brings
Fresh blood and impulse, and that force supplies
On which for character the town relies.
The farmer boys and village lads have made
The men who built the city marts of trade;
The preachers, lawyers, doctors of renown
Have seldom had their birth within the town.
When for the greatness of our statesman Hughes
We seek in birth place and in blood the clues,
We find the village as his place of birth,
And wonder not his fame flies thro the earth.
Next to fair Ballston, where affection calls,
There is no lovelier village than Glens Falls—
We hail that village now, with glad intent,
As birthplace of our coming President.

XXXIII

One thing to-day, amid the storm and stress,
We see emerging—civic righteousness;
A quickened conscience and a fresh appeal
To sense of justice for a new, square deal.
Political graft has had its prosperous day,
When scheming plunderers made the people pay,
While franchise rights for bribes were given away,
Reform is in the air, and politicians
Have taken heed of signs and portents dire—
The people have selected their physicians
And bade them give what dose the ills require.
The question's not—does medicine suit the taste,
But "Step up and take it, gentlemen, in haste."
One other thing we hope to see, a quickened village pride,
A checking of this tendency, this city-setting tide.
Alas for us, where shall we look for salvation
If the city shall dominate country and nation?
In the new social spirit the village must lead,
As in all the reforms which are born of our need.
Then let us, on this joyous day,
With Whittier, patriot poet, say:
"Oh, make Thou us, through centuries long,
In peace secure, in justice strong;
Around our gift of freedom draw
The safeguards of Thy righteous law;
And, cast in some diviner mold,
Let the new cycle shame the old!"

COLONEL STONE'S ADDRESS.

Col. William L. Stone, of Mt. Vernon, New York, gave the closing address, his subject being "The Declaration of Independence in a new light." The address follows:

"Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: Before beginning my address I wish to tell you all how badly I feel that my honored old teachers, Rev. H. W. Bulkeley and Dr. Babcock (both of whom I loved dearly) are not present on this august occasion to hear thier old pupil. Also, my dearly loved friends, the late Judge George G. Scott and E. R. Mann, both of whom by their writings have left an indelible impress on Ballston history. Still, I firmly believe, altho' not a spiritualist in the common acceptation of that term, that they are all here in spirit, if not in personal presence, to listen to the remarks of all the distinguished speakers at this time.

"On the 15th of May, 1776, the second continental congress voted to recommend all the colonies to adopt new forms of government. On the 7th of June, Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, obeying the instructions of that colony, moved 'That these united colonies are and of right ought to be, free and independent states;" that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.' Three days later, on the 10th, the day when the first debate on Lee's resolution was closed, six of the colonies being unprepared to vote, a postponement was had until the 1st of July, in the expectation that by that time there would be entire unanimity. On the evening of the 1st John Adams wrote to Samuel Chase that the debate took up most of the day. Jefferson, in 1787, stated that the debate lasted "nine hours, until evening without refreshment and without pause.' At the close of the debate, however, no definite action was taken, and the final voting was postponed until the following day. Accordingly, on the 2d of July, the first formal and final vote was taken on Independence—all of the thirteen colonies voting for it except that of New York. As New York has been severely censured for this, and as she fain would stand well with her little sister 'Rhody,' permit me, in behalf of that state, to correct this impression.

"It has been stated by a high authority that the New York delegates, during the entire debate on Lee's resolution, 'remained passive, neither opposing nor helping, as they deemed the whole subject of separation as outside of their instructions.' There could not be a greater error. To suppose that George Clinton, who had been elected a delegate to the continental congress from New York chiefly on account of his pronounced views against the crown, or that Robert R. Livingston, one of the

five, who reported the declaration, remained 'passive' instead of using all their influence in moulding the sentiments of the congress in the right direction—is to accuse both of those gentlemen of grave inconsistency.

"On May 5th, 1776, as we have seen, a resolution was passed by the continental congress and ordered to be pushed. If either Clinton or Livingston was present and voted for it at that time, it could fairly be said that they not only favored, but voted for independence. One of the phrases of the preamble to the resolution is, 'It is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under said crown should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government executed under the authority of the people of the colonies.' John Adams, at the time, called this act or resolution 'independence itself.' The colonies were recommended by it to establish popular governments where they had not already done so. Indeed the independence of the colonies took place in fact, if not in name, before the general independence of the whole was declared. Bancroft says that all the New York delegates, except Alsop, were personally ready to vote for independence, and were confident of their constituents. John Adams says that even Duane favored it, and he had been a half tory all along; how much more then must Clinton and Livingston have been for it. The documentary declaration was debated in committee of the whole before being reported to the house; and there is not much doubt that in such committee the New York delegates voted for it. Wisner, one of the New York delegates, we know from the investigation of Wauklin Burdge voted for it.

"But it has been further stated, to the discredit of New York, that on the second of July, when the vote on independence was actually taken, New York (the vote was by colonies, not by individuals) did not vote, the delegates from that colony over their own signatures, with Clinton at their head, officially reporting as follows: 'The important question of independence was agitated yesterday in committee of the whole congress and this day will be finally determined in the house. We know the line of our conduct on this occasion; we have your instructions and will faithfully pursue them.' But this course was entirely proper; and for the delegates to have acted otherwise would have been to disobey the express commands of the New York provincial congress which they represented. Upon the passage of the resolution of May 15 by the continental congress the New York delegates on June 8, wrote home to ascertain the sentiments of their constituents on the question of independence which was expected to come up shortly in that body. Meanwhile on June 19, a new provincial congress was elected by New York for the express purpose of acting on the question of independence, as the previous one to whom the letter of the delegates was addressed, did not consider itself authorized so to do. The old provincial congress continued to sit for some days after the new one was chosen; and of course can be excused for not authorizing their delegates in the Continental congress to vote for independence. They purposely left it to the new provincial congress, which met at White Plains, July 8, 1776, and which, the very next day, passed unanimously a resolution approving the Declaration of Independence. The fact upon which considerable stress has been laid—that the New York delegates in the Continental congress were not the voters for the adhesion of the colony of New York—is a purely private and local affair between them and their constituents; nor does it, in the slighest degree, affect the willingness of New York to declare itself independent. There was very little toryism that dared to show itself to the people at this late day. Most of the leading loyalists had either left the state or were hiding. Indeed, as a matter of fact, New Yorkers were as nearly unanimous at the time as either New Jersey or Pennsylvania. Finally when, on the 2d of July, the vote was taken for formal independence, the New York delegates, who, for local reasons, could not act for their state, were probably much better disposed than those of Pennsylvania, who could act and yet were intending to vote four against independence and three for it—and it was only by great persuasion that two of the four were induced to absent themselves so as to turn the minority in majority. Though the colony of New York failed, for the above reasons to vote, the state failed not to act for liberty and independence.

The official record of the momentous proceedings of the 2d is in these words:

"Tuesday, July 2, 1776. The Congress resumed the consideration of the resolution from the committee of the whole, which was agreed to as follows:

"*Resolved,* That these United States colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be totally dissolved."

"From the hour when that vote was taken and that record made," says Mr. McKean very justly in his centennial address, "the United States of America 'assuming among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them.'"

In fact, the 2d of July and not the 4th, should be the day for the celebration of our independence. That it would be was the opinion of the prominent men of that day. On the morning of the 1st of July John Adams, anticipating independence in that day's vote, wrote from Pennsylvania to Archibald Bullock, "May Heaven prosper the new-born republic, and make it more glorious than any former republics have been." And, on the third, after the adoption of the resolution of Independence, he wrote to his wife as follows: "Yesterday the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America, and a greater, perhaps, never was, nor will be decided among men. That will live as truth among all Americans who know and value the history of their country;" and in the course of the same letter, he adds: "The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch

in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival, be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to another, from this time forevermore. It ought also to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. * * * * * * * * * * * Through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory; and prosperity will triumph in this day's transaction."

At length on the fourth of July, 1776, the Declaration of Independence—the complement of the act of the second, having been drafted by Thomas Jefferson, was formally submitted to the delegates present.

If, however, it be asked, how has it come to pass that the fourth of July has been substituted as a day of celebration for the second, the real date of the birth of the United States as an independent nation? the answer is, that the resolution of the second was passed in private session and remained unknown to the people generally until the resolution and the declaration were publicly proclaimed together. "There was nothing in the phrase of the resolution to cause it to live in the popular memory—while there was everything in the Declaration to give it a vital hold upon the affections of the American people." But there was still another cause for this. It has been well said, that "the great importance—the decisive and controlling character of the resolution of independence, adopted on the 2d day of July, 1776, have been obscured to the popular vision by the splendor and fame of Jefferson's immortal declaration of the reasons for the adoption of that resolution. Yet Jefferson himself never allowed the one to overshadow in his estimation the importance of the other. The declaration, in his mind, was intended to be 'an appeal to the tribunal of the world' as a justification of what had already been done. It was intended, he says, 'to be an expression of the American mind, and to give that expression, the proper tone and spirit called for by the occasion; to place before mankind the common sense of the subject in terms so plain and firm as to command their assent.' Yet the Declaration of Independence has dislodged the resolution of independence in the popular mind; and the fourth of July has displaced the second as the nation's holiday and the patriot's high festival."

But the strictly official action, following the transmission of the declaration by the president of congress to the civil and military authorities of the thirteen colonies, deserves particular mention. The president, in sending on the 6th of July, the declaration to the different provincial congresses, said "that congress had judged it necessary to dissolve all connection between Great Britain's American colonies, and requested that its action might be proclaimed in the manner that might be thought best." The approval of its terms by all of the colonies was hearty and unanimous; but especially was this the case in Rhode Island, where the ratifications were printed and read before great assemblages of the civil authorities, the militia and the people. The following is the pledge of Rhode Island, which was a fitting sequel to the destruction of the British sloop "Liberty" and dismantling of the royal fort at Newport and the burning of the Gaspee in the waters of the Narragansett:

"STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTIONS.

"In general assembly, July session, 1776.

"This general assembly, taking into the most serious consideration the resolution of the most honorable, the general congress of the United States of America of the 4th inst., declaring the said states free and independent, do approve the said resolution; and do most solemnly engage that it will support the said general congress with our lives and fortunes.

"HENRY WARD,
"Secretary of State."

Henry Ward, the signer of this ringing resolution, was the younger brother of Samuel Ward, the colonial war governor of Rhode Island, and who also has the distinguished honor of being the first one to bring forward in the continental congress a resolution proposing George Washington for commander-in-chief of the continental armies.

We are now prepared to speak of the signing of the document—known as the Declaration of Independence and which you have all doubtless seen and examined.

In thinking of that instrument we are apt to bring up before the imagination an august assemblage, gravely seated around a table with the declaration spread out upon it, and each member of the continental congress, in turn, taking a pen and with great dignity affixing to it his name. Nothing, however, can be farther from that which actually took place. Very few of the delegates, if, indeed, any, signed the original document on the 4th, and none signed the present one now in Independence Hall, for the very good reason that it was not then in existence.

On July 19, congress voted that the declaration be engrossed on parchment. Jefferson, however, says that New York signed on July 15, consequently New York must have signed the original copy of the declaration before it had gone into the hands of the engrosser. What day the work was done by the copyist is not known. All that is certainly known is, that on the 2d of August, congress had the document as engrossed. This is the document which was on exhibition during the centennial in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, and which is now in the state department at Washington. It is unfortunate that, at the present day, the signatures can only with difficulty be made out. A recent writer has said "that the ink was stolen! that some one, several years since, obtained permission to make a fac simile of the declaration, and passed the parchment between heavy rollers, which took up most of the ink, causing the writing to become faint and many of the signatures wholly illegible." On that day (August 2) this present document was signed by all the members present, among whom

were Hopkins and Ellery, the delegates from Rhode Island. The original declaration is lost, or rather was probably purposely destroyed by congress. All the signatures were made anew. When the business of signing was ended is not known. One Matthew Thornton from New Hampshire signed it in November when he became a member for the first time, and Thomas McKean from Delaware—as he says himself—did not sign till January, 1777. Indeed, this signing was, in effect what, at the present day, would be called a "test oath." The principles of many of the new delegates, coming into congress from the different states, were not known with certainty—some of them might be tories in disguise—and thus each one was required, on first entering congress, to sign the declaration. In January, 1777, an authenticated copy, with the names of the signers, was sent to each state, a fact which may have put a stop to the business of signing. It shows, however, the little importance that was attached to this ceremony, that Robert R. Livingston was one of the committee of five that reported the declaration and yet did not sign it, unless his signature is lost with the original document. The fact is that, as a late writer of high authority, Mr. Roberdeau Buchanon, says. "The signing was not the vital act that gave life and force to the declaration; but merely the attestation of that act already consummated; and, judging by the printed broadside, performed wholly for the satisfaction of the public."

But I am not delving in the field of conjecture. The same questions seem to have occurred as early as 1813, when Thomas Rodney wrote to Gov. Thomas McKean, a delegate from Delaware and afterwards president of congress and governor of Pennsylvania, asking him why his name was not among the list of the signers in the printed journals of congress. To this letter Gov. McKean replied under date of Oct. 22, 1813, as follows:

"Now that I am on this subject I will tell you something not generally known. In the printed public journal of congress for 1776, Vol. II, it would appear that the Declaration of Independence was signed on the 4th of July by the members whose names are there inserted. But the fact is not so—for no person signed it on that day, nor for many days after; and among the names subscribed one was against it. Mr. Reed and seven others were not in congress on that day, viz: Messrs. Morris, Rush, Clymer, Smith, Taylor and Ross of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Thornton of New Hampshire. Nor were the six gentlemen last named at that time members. The five for Pennsylvania were appointed delegates by the convention of that state on the 26th day of July and Thornton entered congress, for the first time, on the 4th of November following, when the names of Henry Wisner of New York and Thomas McKean of Delaware were not printed as subscribers, though both were present and voted for independence.

The truth is, the Declaration of Independence was considered at that time of much less importance than now; nor did the signers dream of its becoming a shrine almost of worship at the present day. It is a dramatic incident, and naturally concentrates men's attention on it. In the public mind at the time the provincial congresses were more important than the general congress. The latter was a body of agents and formed no sovereignty except for war purposes. The real sovereigns were the states.

A word, in conclusion, regarding American achievements of which the resolution of the 2d of July was the precursor; for the effects of that resolution, in all that tends to national greatness, were not like the short-lived splendors of the morning star. From the date of the passage of that resolution, higher and higher like the sun, and with a steady radiance, has risen the present grandeur of the United States! No Sidney Smith may now sneeringly ask, "Who reads an American book?" Nor, can a Talleyrand now point the finger of scorn at us and mockingly enquire, "Where is your history?" We have a literature and a history as brilliant as any that sheds lustre upon the annals of the past.

"Soldiers!" said Napoleon, on the eve of one of his battles, and in one of those bulletins with which he was wont to electrify all Europe, "soldiers! from yonder pyramids forty centuries are gazing down upon you!" But, on that 2d of July, from far nobler and grander heights, the Providence of God was looking down upon the little band of patriots, moulding and shaping the events that were to spring from its deliberations, so that they should endure, not through this world only, but throughout the ages.

At the conclusion of the address, to the inspiring strains of "My country, 'tis of thee," by the band, the assembled thousands departed from a scene the most memorable in the history of a hundred years.

THE FIREWORKS.

In the early evening the trolley cars from Saratoga Springs and Schenectady brought thousands of visitors to see the celebration. It is estimated that fully fifteen thousand people were congregated on Low street, Front street and on the railroad station grounds to witness the display. It gave universal satisfaction and lasted nearly an hour.

The display began with the rocket guns followed by the set piece, "Welcome To All." During the evening two set pieces that were greatly admired were those of the "Old Baptist Church" and the "Old Sans Souci." The portrayals were admirable, the outlines of these buildings being shown clearly in lines of fire.

One of the prettiest pieces was the "Niagara Falls." As the stream of fire descended from a wire strung across the street it lit up all the intervening space, and gazing from the rail-

road to Front street a sea of faces was shown in bold relief, a sight never to be forgotten.

During the display, Doring's Band, stationed at the Soldier's Monument, gave a fine concert.

With "Good Night" in fireworks, and "America" by the Band, the Centennial of Ballston Spa, in the words of President Wiswall "a glorious, impressive and dignified" celebration, came to a close.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS.

The Schenectady Gazette said:

"The four-day celebration of the centenary of the incorporation of the village of Ballston Spa culminated Tuesday with the grand climax of the whole affair. There was a parade of military, civic and fraternal organizations, and floats more than a mile in length. In the afternoon the centennial exercises proper were held. Many celebrations have been held by the village, but none approached in magnitude and pleasure-giving this recognition of the hundredth milestone in the life of the village.

"The old town was gorgeous in its decking of bunting and flags, while the residential streets, arched over with their century-old elms and maples looked to many even prettier than the gayer portions of the village. Suspended from the immense trees almost every hundred feet were immense flags, which lent a touch of color that enhanced the beauty of nature, if that were possible.

"Hundreds of visitors had arrived during the first days of the celebration, but the incoming trains and trolleys Tuesday morning brought hundreds more to swell the crowds on the street, and long before the parade started the streets were crowded with spectators. It was a good natured crowd, and as the different organizations passed they were loudly cheered.

"Hardly a grander spot could have been chosen for the afternoon exercises than that selected by the committee. The grand stand was built in front of the Christ Church parish house, which is at the junction of five streets. The parish house was built in the late fifties as an armory, and the military appearance of the building, with its narrow windows and tower, made an admirable background, while the lawn in front and on the sides, with the adjoining streets, gave ample room for the thousands who were present to see Governor Hughes and listen to the exercises.

"The exercises were presided over by Hon. Jesse S. L'Amoreaux, former county judge, and were opened with a selection by Doring's Band of Troy. President I. W. Wiswall, president of the village, as well as of the centennial celebration, gave the address of welcome in his usual agreeable manner, in which he touched briefly on the gloriousness of the village.

"Hon. J. S. L'Amoreaux then gave an address, which was followed by the chorus of the school children singing "The Star Spangled Banner," which was sung in an inspiring manner. Then followed the centennial oration by General Horatio C. King of New York, in which he gave a large portion to historical incidents connected with the village and the great men that it has given to the country.

"The centennial poem by Rev. Howard B. Grose, D.D., of New York, a former Ballstonian, was preceded by a selection by the Band.

"Governor Charles E. Hughes was to give a short address, but owing to the Legislature's protracted session he could not be present. The closing address was delivered by Col. William L. Stone of Mount Vernon, popularly known as the historian of Saratoga county. As the historical part had been well covered, Col. Stone gave an address on the 'Declaration of Independence in a New Light.'

"The celebration closed with a grand display of fire works on Low street in the evening."

The Saratogian said:

"Centennial has passed into Ancient History—But nobody who went to Ballston will forget it—Biggest success ever—Largest crowds, best policing, greatest fun, swellest fireworks and finest music.

"Ballston Spa is to-day recovering from the celebration of its centennial. As the circus posters read, it was the 'biggest, best, and most glorious' of any similar events within the memory of the oldest inhabitant in this part of the state.

"Not a blot marred the affair. The thunder storm during the parade sent the crowd to scurrying for a few minutes, but that was the only sign of a rain drop. And the crowd was a big one. Even bigger than had been anticipated. Chief O'Brien and his men handled the crowds with such skill that rowdyism was lacking. To President Wiswall and his committees, great praise is due, and they were receiving it to-day.

"The fine display of Pain's fireworks closed the glorious celebration of the centennial in a blaze of glory as well as of fire. It is estimated that fully fifteen thousand people saw the magnificent display. The fireworks were sent up from the railroad track on Low street. This street is the widest in town, being over a hundred feet in breadth, and from the railroad to Front street it was packed solid with spectators while the station grounds held a thousand or more and abutting streets contained their quota of spectators.

"Roofs of buildings and all the windows within view of the display were crowded. While the crowd was waiting good naturedly for the display to begin they were entertained by music by the band.

"After the opening gun rockets the piece 'Welcome To All,' was set off and was followed by hundreds of rockets, Roman candles, etc. Then the set piece 'The Old Baptist Chmurch' was fired and elicited hearty applause. Then followed other pieces and the set piece, 'The Old Sans Souci Hotel,' which gave a very good representation in fire of this famous hostelry.

"The display which lasted for nearly an hour was brought to a close with the 'Good Night' piece and the band played 'America,' closing the celebration, except the return for the thousands of visitors

from neighboring towns. It was after midnight before the last of the visitors were able to get home.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

The Ballston Journal: "It seems most superflous to add a word to what has already been said of the observance of the close of the first century of the municipal life of the village. If this celebration, and the eloquent utterances of the many speakers, shall have served to increase the pride of our citizens in their village, shall have determined them to ever work for its betterment, civil and religious, the celebration will not have been in vain, and time and money not ill spent.

"Praises unstinted have been showered upon us. Ballston has been heralded far and near as a desirable place of residence. Its home life and civic government lauded unceasingly. Let us resolve that nothing shall occur to mar its good name.

"Of the celebration itself it has been fully described in the news columns of the paper and will no doubt be read with interest now, perhaps in future years will be perused with still greater interest.

"Much honor is due to the citizens of the village who have spared neither time nor effort to make the celebration a splendid one."

The Saratogian: "The people of the county seat have done well to commemorate so elaborately and attractively this centennial. We are a young country, and to have reached the age of one hundred years, is evidence of those qualities and virtues that make a community worth while. It speaks of solidity of purpose, of a community of interest, of a municipal pride and an abiding faith in the beauties and opportunities of a village that must draw to it others who are seeking just such a place in which to cast their lot."

The Troy Times: "'Ballston Spa is a good old town' and it is having a good old centennial. Whether the ardor of the exercises has anything to do with the fervency of the temperature does not appear, but for more than a century Ballston Spa has been noted for its underground connections with vigorous waters and there may be a hidden connection between mineralogy and meteorology. Anyway, Ballston Spa is proving that it has not only developed many worthy sons and daughters, but has enriched the population of other places by contributions of distinguished men. Saratoga county is a glorious old division of the state, and Ballston Spa came pretty near seeing that county first. Here's to another century of good springs and just as good summers, autumns and winters."

The Ballston Daily News: "Judge L'Amoreaux thrilled the vast throng with his inspiring speech, which won him new laurels."

"The 'glory, fame and greatness' of Ballston Spa have seldom inspired a speaker as it did Judge Jesse S. L'Amoreaux."

"The most inspiring number on the program was the centennial ode composed and read by Rev. Howard B. Grose of New York, a former resident of Ballston Spa, who now holds a position high in Baptist literary circles.

"The ode was a meritorious composition and held the closest attention of the vast concourse of people during its recital. Rev. Mr. Grose had woven together in clever rhyme many historical facts of Ballston Spa and many events which had come under his personal observation during his residence in this village. The prospect of listening to a centennial ode is not cheerful, but the crowd remained to listen and had the heartiest series of laughs it has had in years. Few, if any within the hearing of his voice left as Mr. Grose read poem after poem about Ballston Spa. The audience regretted when he finished; it would like to have heard more."

CENTENNIAL ECHOES.

The Ballston Journal of August 3, published the following, under the head of "Echoes of the Centennial:"

"Hon. George W. Clark, of New York City, was an honored guest at the centennial celebration. He is a brother-in-law of Mr. S. B. Medbery and although long a resident of New York, his frequent visits in the summer season to our village, have made him well-known in the community. Mr. Clark sends us a most interesting account of his recent visit. He writes:

"Editor Ballston Journal: I was born at West Milton April 1, 1817, and when at 90, I received the invitation some two weeks previous to the celebration of Ballston's centennial, to be present. I was recovering from pneumonia, which very few of my age survive, and I was not certain of being able to attend. A few days, however, before the centennial proceedings began, my doctor told me I could go if I would be careful to be on my feet as little as possible. I took my wife, and with the delightful hospitality of the McKnight family, I shall never regret this Centennial visit to my birthplace. But the program of exercises for the great occasion had to be made up before I could advise the Committee of Arrangements that I would be able to come, thus happily free from any possible special duty, the District Attorney's auto at my service, with himself for company as chauffeur, we saw all parts of Ballston, never as beautiful as before; shook hands with old friends we met in our drives, and attended all the attractively arranged features of the grand centennial event.

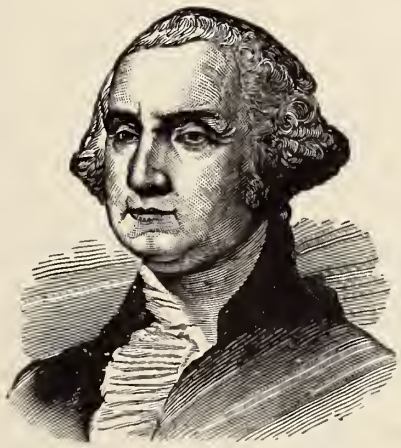
"The splendid portraiture of Ballston Spa's one hundred years history, as given by the committee which planned the centennial doings, including its poet and orators, is evidence that there has been no degeneracy in the intelligence and public spirit of Ballston's present citizenship. As the noble and thrilling speeches were made from the platform before a vast audience, I grew prouder and prouder of being a native of Ballston. Wiswall's eloquent greeting of the people; Judge L'Amoreaux's charming address, a scholarly pen picture of Ballston's hundred years; the poem by Rev. Howard B. Grose, which will never be forgotten by the lovers of truth

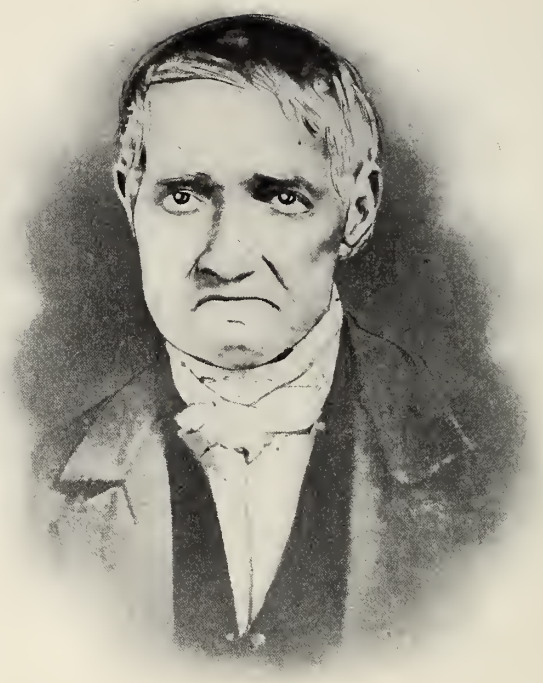
and beauty of expression; William L. Stone's revelation of new light on the Declaration of Independence were warmly received, while the grand oration by Gen. H. C. King completely captured the favor of ten thousand listeners. Only once did his faintness in praising Ballston Spa get the best of him. In speaking of our victory over Burgoyne, he says: 'Ballston Spa has a right to a full share of the glory of this achievement.' He admits this victory for the colonies was 'a Waterloo to British hopes.' It weakened and discouraged their fighting forces, and soon led to their surrender. The colonies' independence was not long delayed, and to-day, instead of being under the rule of Great Britain, the United States stand at the very head of nationally organized humanity. The great victory at Bemis Heights, on the soil of Saratoga county, of which Ballston Spa is the capital, was an achievement which measured by its beneficent results to the world outranks all the ambitious battles of ancient or modern times, and entitles it to *immortal fame* rather than simply a *share* of its glory. No wonder all native Ballstonians are proud of their mother earth that also gave birth in fact to the grandest Republic in history.

"Respectfully,

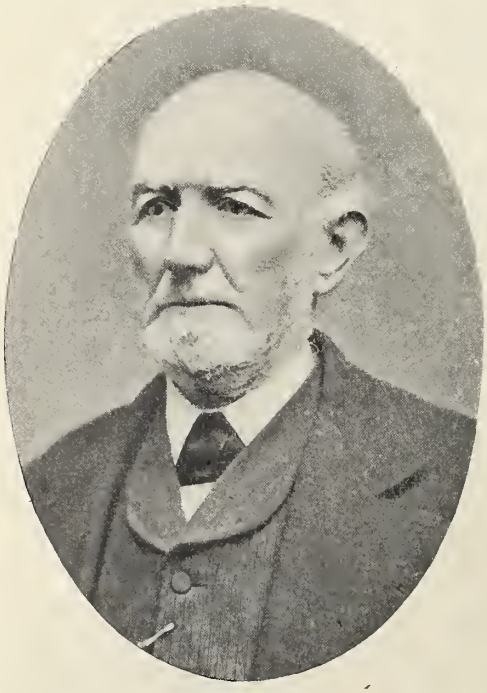
"GEORGE W. CLARK."

As a final word, and because it deserves a permanent place in the record, the work of the Finance Committee should have special mention. Each committee performed its duties zealously and with conspicuous success, but to the committee on finance is to be accorded the unusual praise of providing "ways and means" which enabled the Centennial Association to meet all the expenses of the splendid celebration, and after the last bill had been paid to report a balance in the treasury of about twenty dollars. The total amount contributed cheerfully and generously by our citizens was, in round numbers, two thousand dollars.

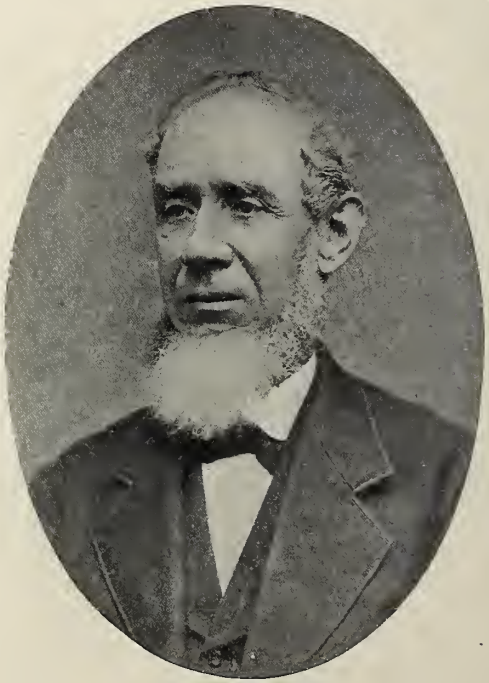




JOEL LEE.



EDWARD W. LEE.



JOHN J. LEE.

Biographical

IN the one hundred years' history of the village of Ballston Spa, there are five families which have been prominently identified with its religious, social, business and professional life, from the earliest days to the present time. In chronological order they are: Joseph Westcot, 1795; Joel Lee, 1797; Samuel Smith, 1806; James Thompson, 1806; Moses Williams, 1807.

THE LEE FAMILY.

John Lee came from Danbury, Conn., in 1793, with his wife and six children: Elias, Joel, William, Noah, Abigail and Ruth. He settled in Milton, west of Rock City Falls. Elias Lee was the first pastor of the Baptist church, and a sketch of his life is given in the history of that pioneer village church.

Joel Lee was born in Danbury, Conn., April 12, 1776. On reaching his majority in 1797, he purchased a farm in Ballston, (in recent years known as the Amos Hewitt farm) and built a house on the site of the present Hewitt house. In 1800 he began business as a merchant in the growing village of Ballston Spa, opening a "general store" for the sale of dry goods, groceries, hardware, crockery, etc., etc. March 25, 1805, he was appointed postmaster, and continued to hold the office for thirty-six years. In 1806, he purchased a plot of ground at the corner of Front and Bath streets and built a store on the corner, where the First National Bank is now located. The post-office was kept in this store until 1841, when he was succeeded as postmaster by James W. Horton. In 1831 he built the stone house on Bath street, north of his store, for his son Edward as a wedding gift, who resided there for many years. In 1834 his oldest son, Edward W., became his business partner, under the firm name of Joel Lee & Son. He retired from business in 1845, after having been one of the prominent men of the community for half a century. Mr. Lee was Member of Assembly in 1810, and again in 1836. He married Patience Westcot, daughter of Joseph Westcot. Their children were Edward W., John J., George W., Julia, Emeline, Augusta, Lucy, Mary and Frances.

Edward Wescot Lee was born in Ballston Spa, May 3, 1809, and was the eldest son of Joel Lee. He died August 3, 1891, aged eighty-two years, at the time of his decease being the oldest native resident of the village. Early in life he became associated with his father in mercantile trade, and for half a century was one of the leading merchants of Ballston Spa. He was county treasurer one term, 1847-8-9, and also county superintendent of the poor. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and for many years an elder of the church. A member of the Saratoga County Bible Society, he was its president in 1875, and for many years the treasurer of the Society. His whole life was passed in the village of his birth, and he enjoyed the respect and esteem of a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

John Joel Lee was born in Ballston Spa, August 22, 1817, and was the second son of Joel Lee. When a young man he went to New York where he learned the goldsmith's trade, and his principal recreation was found in the hours he employed in fashioning beautiful specimens of his skill for his friends. He was connected with the Ballston Spa Bank, as teller and cashier, from its organization until his death, over forty-eight years. With the exception of the two years in New York, Mr. Lee was a resident of his native village, and through a long life of honest, conscientious endeavor to discharge faithfully every trust committed to him, had won the respect and esteem of the entire community, and a much larger circle of friends and acquaintances with whom he had come in contact through his connection with the Bank. In early life he became a communi-

cant of the Baptist Church. He was a prominent Mason, and a member of Franklin Lodge, Warren Chapter and Washington Commandery. He was also an Odd Fellow, being a Past Grand of old Kayaderosseras Lodge. He died October 6, 1887, full of years and honors, at the age of seventy.

George W. Lee was born in Ballston Spa October 6, 1825. The greater part of his life, after arriving at his majority, was spent in the West. He died in Virginia City, Nevada, September 26, 1879, aged fifty-four years.

Julia Lee married Robert Bennett, a merchant in the village, and after his death became the wife of Jonathan S. Beach; Emeline married David F. White, a son of Epenetus White, Jr.; Augusta married John W. Thompson; Lucy married George G. Scott; Mary married Nathaniel M. Clark; Frances married Callender Beecher, a rising young lawyer of the village, and several years after his death became the wife of John McLean. Mrs. McLean is now one of Ballston's oldest residents, and the only survivor of the family of Joel Lee.

The surviving members of the family of Edward W. Lee are Mrs. Frederick T. Powell, Miss Mary J. Lee and Mrs. Edward F. Grose, of Ballston Spa; Mrs. John Arbuckle, of Watkins, N. Y., and Walter S. Lee, of Boulder, Colorado.

Mrs. Isabel Lee Parmenter, of Saratoga Springs, is the only survivor of John J. Lee.

THE WESTCOT FAMILY.

Joseph Westcot came from Stephentown, Rensselaer county, to Ballston Spa, and in 1795, in company with Reuben Hewitt, purchased the hotel of Benajah Douglas, (now Brookside). At this time his son Reuben was in his fourth year.

Reuben Westcot, born November 25, 1791, had just reached his majority when the war of 1812 broke out. He enlisted as a volunteer, and rose to the rank of captain. After the close of the war he returned to this village, and in 1815 opened a general store. In 1818 he built the store now occupied by H. C. Westcot, his grandson, adjoining the First National Bank. In 1841 Mr. Westcot closed out his stock of dry goods and groceries, and engaged exclusively in the business of a druggist. This is the only store in the village that has remained in possession of the descendants of the original owner until the present time. He died May 15, 1862, aged 71 years. For many years he was a member of Christ church, and one of its ves-

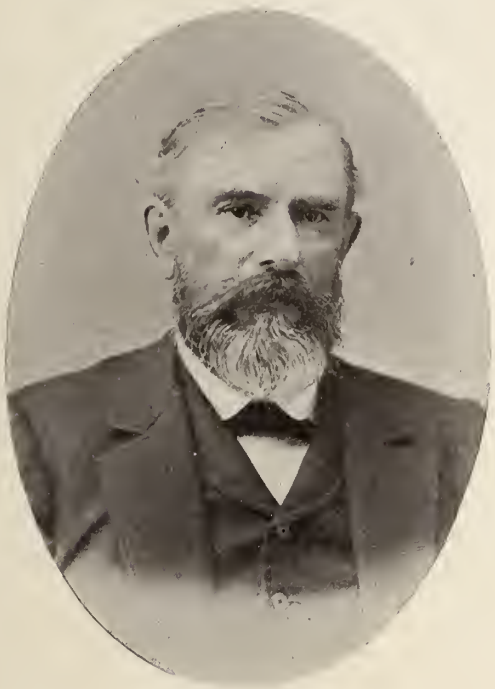
REUBEN WESTCOT.

trymen. He was widely known as an enterprising business man, and was highly respected as a citizen. He was a trustee of the village for seven years, a coroner of the county, and in 1851 and 1855 was village president.

The children of Reuben Westcot were John H., Joseph E., Sarah, Mary and Frances.

John Howard Westcot was born in Ballston Spa September 20, 1823. Throughout his whole life, which was spent in his native village, he enjoyed, and was worthy of the confidence and esteem of all with whom he became associated. He succeeded to the business of his father, which he continued until his death. He was a member of Christ church, a member of the vestry, and for the last ten years of his life its junior warden. He was trustee of the village four years, and village president in 1866-7. He was also a member of the Board of Education. Prom-

inent in Masonic circles, he was a member of Franklin Lodge, Warren Chapter, Bloss Council, of Troy, Washington Commandery,



JOHN H. WESTCOT.

of Saratoga Springs, and Oriental Temple, Mystic Shrine, Troy. He died February 20, 1895, aged 72 years, and was buried with the honors of Knight Templarism.

JOSEPH E. WESTCOT
At his Desk in County Clerk's Office.

Joseph E. Westcot was born in Ballston Spa September 17, 1827. He was a copyist in the county clerk's office from 1847 to 1852. He was engaged in business for some years in New Orleans, and on returning to this village in 1871, he was employed in the county clerk's office, engaged in re-indexing the records. On the death of John B. McLean, December 24, 1879, he was appointed deputy county clerk, and held that position for twenty years. He was village trustee for two terms. In the discharge of the important and exacting duties of deputy county clerk he displayed a rare efficiency. He died June 1, 1902, aged 75 years.

Sarah Westcot married Lorenzo Kelly, who afterward became the publisher of the Rochester Union and Advertiser; Mary never married; Frances became the wife of Nathan J. Johnson, a lawyer by profession. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the 115th New York Volunteers in the Civil war.

The only survivors of this old Ballston family residing in the village are a son and daughter of John H. Westcot: Mrs. Fanny Kline and Herbert C. Westcot. Another son is Reuben W. Westcot, of Yonkers, N. Y.

THE SMITH FAMILY.

Andrew Watrous Smith was born in Ballston Spa December 12, 1812. When about eighteen years of age he went to New Orleans and took a clerkship in the banking house of Edward McMaster, also a native of Ballston. A few years later he was joined by his younger brother, Samuel, and subsequently they formed the banking house of Smith Brothers & Company, of New Orleans.

When the war of the rebellion broke out they were doing a heavy business as bankers and cotton brokers. At the time the city was captured by the forces under Gen. Butler, there were $90,000 in gold in their vaults. This was confiscated by Gen. Butler's orders, and the Smith Brothers closed their doors and returned to their native town, in which they had always spent the summer seasons. After the close of the war they brought suit against Gen. Butler in the United States Supreme Court and recovered their property. They then reopened their banking house in New Orleans and continued business until 1870, when they sold out and returned to their native village to reside for the remainder of their days.

Andrew Smith purchased the mansion of

Robert P. McMaster, on High street, and here his widow still resides. He died January 25, 1886, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. His widow, Mrs. Emma Thompson Smith, daughter of the late George Thompson, survives him, and four sons, Samuel, George T., Roland W. and Edward L.

Samuel Smith, brother of Andrew, was born in Ballston Spa, February 4, 1819. After his return from New Orleans in 1870, he built a large mansion at the corner of High street and Ballston avenue, and made his home in this village until his death on February 16, 1884, aged sixty-five years. His widow and four children survive him: Andrew W. and Sidney J., of New York; Cora, Countess of Strafford, England, and Ada, Mrs. Alfred Kessler, of New York.

Robert P. Smith, a younger brother, was born in Ballston Spa April 30, 1827. He was employed by Andrew and Samuel in the banking business at New Orleans. He also made this village his home during the latter years of his life. He died April 29, 1881, aged fifty-four years. These three brothers were genial, whole-souled gentlemen, highly respected throughout the community, and with a large circle of friends and acquaintances in their native town.

Their father, Samuel Smith, was one of the first merchant tailors of this village. He commenced business here about the time the village was incorporated. He was born in the town of Balls-town in 1780, his father Thomas Smith, being one of the pioneer settlers of the town. Samuel Smith married Lucinda Watrous, daughter of Edward A. Watrous, another pioneer settler of the town. There were four daughters: Charlotte, who married Wheeler K. Booth; Ann married Nathaniel Montrose of New Orleans; Alicia married Samuel S. Wakeman; Mary married Dr. Leverett Moore; Martha married Thomas S. Dugan of New Orleans. Mrs. Montrose still resides in this village and is the sole survivor of the family of Samuel Smith.

THE THOMPSON FAMILY.

John Thompson, one of the pioneers of Saratoga county, settled in the town of Stillwater in 1763. In 1791 he was commissioned First Judge of the county. Judge Thompson was afterward a Member of Congress from 1799 to 1801, and was also a delegate to the Constitutional Convention which met at Albany October 13, 1801. He was again elected to Congress, serving two terms, from 1807 to 1811. Prior to the organization of the county he had represented this part of Albany county in the Assembly of 1789. John Thompson was the father of James Thompson, who was also commissioned First Judge of the county, and remained on the bench from 1818 to 1833. In 1806 he purchased a farm in Milton, about two miles northwest of Ballston Spa, which has since been known as the "Judge Thompson place."

His son, John Whalen Thompson, the subject of this sketch, succeeded to the judicial honors of the family, having been Surrogate of the county from 1834 to 1847. He was born at the family homestead in Milton, December 29, 1808. He graduated from Union College in 1827, and the same year commenced the study of the law. He was admitted as an attorney in 1831, and formed a law partnership with Anson Brown, which was continued with success until Mr. Brown's death, while a Representative in Congress, in 1840. In 1834 Mr. Thompson was appointed Surrogate by Governor Marcy, and remained in office until the new State Constitution took effect in 1847. He was Supervisor of Milton in 1854. One of the incorporators of the Ballston Spa Bank, and one of the first board of directors, he was elected President in 1856, on the resignation of James M. Cook, who had received the appointment of Superintendent of the State Banking Department. From this time on, he devoted his time to financial affairs, continuing as President of the Ballston Spa National Bank until his death on the 28th of June, 1892, in his eighty-fourth year.

August 29, 1835, he wedded Augusta Isabella Lee, a daughter of Joel Lee. Their children were George L., Samuel, Alice and Frank.

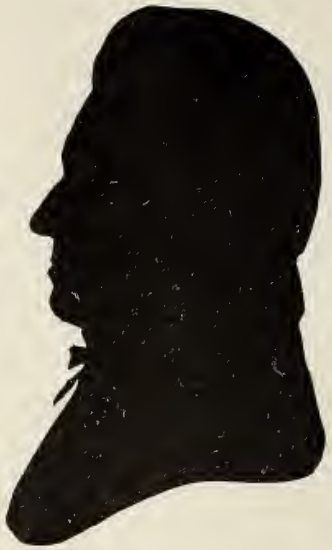
George L. Thompson succeeded his father as President of the Bank. He was Supervisor of Milton in 1876-7-8-9, and again in 1881-2-3-4. He was the only one of the children who married. His widow, and two children, George and Annie, survive him.

SAMUEL SMITH.

ANDREW W. SMITH.

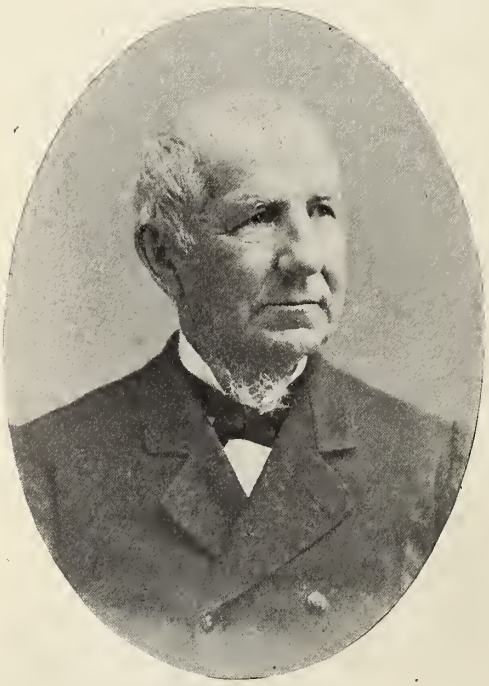
SAMUEL SMITH, Jr.

ROBERT P. SMITH.



James Thompson

1805



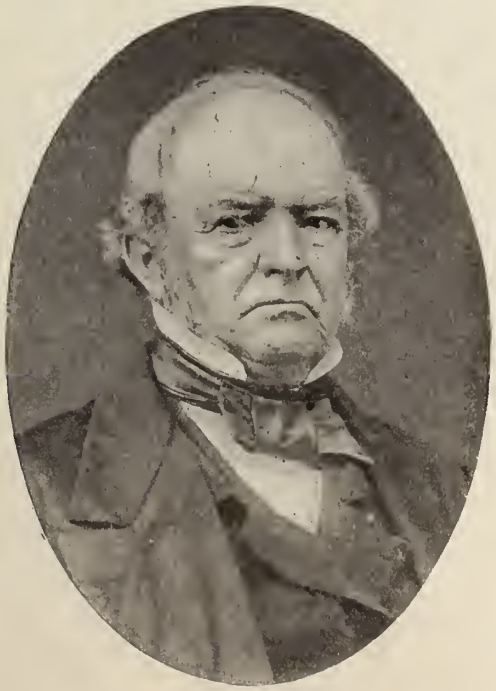
JOHN W. THOMPSON.

GEORGE L. THOMPSON.

Alice Thompson died in Nice, Italy, in 1898; Samuel died in 1899, and Frank in 1902, at the homestead on High street.

George Thompson, the elder brother of John W., was an alumnus of Union College, of the class of 1822, and was County Treasurer four terms, from 1831 to 1844; a village trustee in 1835 and again in 1850, being elected President the latter year. He was a life-long resident of Ballston Spa, largely identified with Ballston's business interests. He died at his home on Milton avenue in the year 1871. Two daughters survive him, Mrs. Andrew W. Smith, of this village, and Mrs. Fanny Soutter, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

THE WILLIAMS FAMILY.



MOSES WILLIAMS.

Moses Williams was born in 1787, and became a resident of Ballston Spa a few years before its incorporation. He learned the trade of shoemaking, and soon after attaining his majority opened a shoe manufactory, and a few years later also engaged in the tannery business. He was appointed postmaster in 1853, and held the office for eight years. In 1815-16 he was village trustee. He was widely known as one of the prominent men of the village, and at the time of his decease was its oldest inhabitant. He died June 18, 1863, aged seventy-seven years.

The children of Moses Williams were Jacob Henry Williams, Moses Lemet, Peter Platt, Anna Maria, Sarah Matilda, Mary

M. LEMET WILLIAMS.

McCrea, Charlotte, and Elouisa. Anna became the wife of Edward W. Lee; Sarah married James B. Sargent, a civil engineer, engaged on public works. The Saratoga and Whitehall railroad, and the Harlem railroad were constructed under his supervision. Mary and Charlotte never married. Elouisa became the wife of Rev. Samuel Irenaeus Prime, the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

Moses Lemet Williams was born in this village March 11, 1826. From 1847 to 1855 he was deputy county clerk. He resigned that position to engage in the business of druggist, and continued this business until his death. In 1861 he was appointed postmaster by President Lincoln; was reappointed in 1865, resigning the office in 1868 on account of declining health. He was also a village trustee. He died October 19, 1869, aged forty-three years. Lemet Williams was a very popular man in the community,

enjoying the confidence and friendship of a very wide circle. A Republican in politics, and a leader in his party, he was uncompromising in his support of the Government during the civil war.

Platt Williams was born in Ballston Spa December 19, 1827. He qualified himself as a civil engineer, and was one of the engineering corps engaged in building the Hudson River railroad. He was also employed in the construction of the Saratoga and Whitehall railroad, the Kansas Pacific, and other western roads. He also served as clerk in the State banking department, when a young man, under Hon. James M. Cook. He was a soldier in the civil war, serving in the 13th N. Y. Heavy Artillery. He died October 12, 1883, aged fifty-six years. None of the children of Moses Williams are living.

The survivors of the Williams family still living in Ballston Spa are Miss Sarah M. Sargent and Miss Ada Williams, and the children of Edward W. Lee, mentioned in the preceding sketch of that family.

JOHN W. TAYLOR.

Hon. John W. Taylor, one of the most distinguished men in political life, in both state and nation, that Saratoga county has ever produced, was throughout his public career a resident of Ballston Spa. He was born in the town of Charlton (then Ballston) March 26, 1784. His father was John Taylor, who moved from Freehold, New Jersey, to the "new country" in the State of New York, and settled in Charlton in 1774. John Taylor was Supervisor of Charlton in 1794 and 1798, in the former year being chosen Moderator of the Board; judge of the county court from 1809 to 1818, inclusive; Member of Assembly in 1797; justice of the peace in 1808, and State Commissioner of Loans in Saratoga county. He died at the home of his son in Ballston Spa at the age of eighty years.

John W. Taylor graduated from Union College, Schenectady, in 1803, at the early age of nineteen years, and was the valedictorian of his class. The same year he organized the Ballston Academy in the "old red meeting house," in the locality which since then has been known as Academy Hill. He also began the study of law with Samuel Cook, and in 1807 opened an office at Court House Hill in connection with that gentleman. Subsequently they engaged in the lumber business, to superintend which Mr. Taylor removed to Jessup's Landing, then in the town of Hadley. In 1811 he was elected Member of Assembly, and at the close of the legislative session in 1812 he purchased the residence of Epenetus White, Jr., on West High street, and soon after removed the

JOHN W. TAYLOR.

house to an adjoining lot, and erected the large mansion which was his home for thirty years, and is now the residence of Mr. John Brown. Miss Winifred Louise Taylor, a grand-daughter, has written the author in a most entertaining manner concerning her illustrious ancestor, and with her permission we shall quote liberally from her letter. Regarding the home in Ballston Spa she writes:

"In a very interesting old letter, written in February, 1812, by Mayor Richard Cox, of Mt. Holly, N. J., who was making a journey of 'upward of 1,600 miles,' with his family in his own carriage to visit his relatives—he was a brother to my grandfather's mother—I find this statement relative to my grandfather: 'John is building him a house; at their last election he was chosen representative in their legislature.' Probably the beautiful old mantel and woodwork imported from England still remain in

the house. The fine old brass knocker, also an importation, remained on the door of the house until some ten years ago, when Mr. Brown sold it to my brother, and it is now on the front door of my father's house."

In 1813 Mr. Taylor was again a member of the Assembly, and at the election in this year he was chosen to represent Saratoga county (the eleventh district) in the Thirteenth Congress, and was a member of congress uninterruptedly for twenty years. He was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the second session of the Sixteenth Congress, as successor of Henry Clay, and in 1825 was chosen Speaker of the Nineteenth Congress for the full term. He was the only citizen of New York who ever held the third place in our government. On the admission of Missouri he delivered the first speech ever made in Congress squarely opposing the extension of slavery. A contemporary of Webster, Clay and Calhoun, a brilliant orator and statesman, and a man of rare judgment and experience, he was a leader of public opinion in his time, and was often consulted in national affairs by Presidents Madison, Monroe and Adams.

The Ballston Spa Gazette, in its issue of December 13, 1825, said editorially of the election of John W. Taylor as Speaker:

"We felicitate the freemen of this county in the result of the choice of our honorable representative, Mr. John W. Taylor, as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States. This is not alone a triumph over the machinations of Van Buren and the Crawford party, but it is a triumph of modest merit over a clan of political disorganizers, headed by the honorable Mr. Van Buren. Yes, freemen of Saratoga, the man of *your choice* has proved himself worthy of the high station of Speaker of the 19th Congress of the United States. And what better evidence of his standing can you require, than that of his receiving the support of such a constellation of talents as compose this Congress. Mr. Taylor was elected on the second ballot by the following vote: For John W. Taylor, 99; John W. Campbell of Ohio, 42; Louis McLane, Delaware, 44; A. Stevenson, of Virginia, 5; scattering 5."

In 1840 he was elected to the State Senate, which was then the highest court of appeal in the State. In 1841 while preparing opinions in cases argued in that court, he was stricken with paralysis, permanently disabled, and resigned his senatorial office. He removed to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1843, making his home with his eldest daughter, Mrs. William D. Beattie, his wife having died about five years previously. He died September 18, 1854, aged seventy years, and his body was brought to Ballston Spa and buried by the side of his wife in the family lot, in the village cemetery. A plain white stone marks the grave, bearing this inscription: "John W. Taylor. Born March 26, 1784: Died Sept. 18, 1854."

"Mr. Taylor was a gentleman of the old school, polite and courteous, an eloquent and forcible speaker, and delivered frequent orations on literary and national topics. He was a National Republican and a Whig. In private life he was retiring, fond of cultivating his garden, and generous in distributing its fruits and flowers. He hated corruption in politics and spurned the use of money for political personal success, and his constituency always retained unwavering confidence in his sterling integrity."

July 4, 1826, he delivered the oration at the celebration in this village of the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence. A member of the Phi Betta Kappa, he delivered before that society, at Harvard College, the commencement oration in 1827. He was a vestryman of Christ Church (Episcopalian) in this village, and was one of the founders of the Saratoga County Bible Society in 1815. On the last visit of General Lafayette, of France, to the United States, in 1824, he accompanied him through the New England states.

Miss Taylor writes:

"I never saw my grandfather, but I have a number of letters in his own beautiful, clear handwriting. Perhaps the strongest impression that they give me is of the courtly dignity of the man; but in his business letters I find always the most scrupulous regard for the rights and claims of others,—and in friendship, always the most grateful remembrance of kindnesses received. As an example I quote from a letter written in 1846. Referring to an old friend who was ill, he writes:

'I pray for her speedy recovery. My recollections of her are associated with those days full of hope, when life was young. One incident among a thousand now occurs. Soon after marriage I went with my wife to Union College to deliver a Master's Oration and receive the degree of A.M. Carriages being all engaged we walked from Givens' Hotel after dinner to the church; a storm arose and flooded the streets; my wife was with thin kid slippers and silk gauze stockings, and before reaching the church they were well soaked. The prospect of sitting thus through the long exercises was any-

thing but comfortable. I could not go out with her and neglect my part, but we were scarcely seated when Mrs. Foot, taking the stove from under her feet, drew my attention with a parasol, and reached the stove to me over intervening seats, which made my wife quite comfortable during the meeting. It was so considerate, self-denying and motherly that my wife remembered it to the last.'" This quaint picture of by-gone days in Schenectady is worthy of preservation.

"My grandfather's letters to his wife are classics in their line, expressing romantic devotion in forms as delicate and stately as the minuet of their youthful days. A letter to his eleven year old daughter is an extreme example of his ceremonious manner, but shows also his characteristic attitude of deference towards the fair sex:

"Washington, March 9th, 1826.

"Accept, dear Malvina, the congratulations of a parent who loves you, on the returning anniversary of your birth. Entering now into your twelfth year, the improvement of every week becomes more and more important to your future respectability and usefulness. Cultivate, my sweet girl, habitual kindness in your intercourse with your brothers and sisters; affectionate respect and confidence in your dear mother, and perfect truth in your communications with everybody. Observe these rules and honor and happiness are sure to be yours. If I rightly remember you encouraged me to expect a letter from you during the present session. Pray don't disappoint me.

From your affectionate father,

JOHN W. TAYLOR."

"Miss Malvina Taylor."

RESIDENCE OF JOHN W. TAYLOR
Now the Home of John Brown.

"In social life everywhere he seems to have been distinguished for his brilliant and genial urbanity. My grandfather's eldest son, John W. Taylor, who died in New York five years ago, knew and remembered more of the life in the Ballston home than any other member of the family, and in one of his letters to me I find this interesting bit:

'Henry Clay was visiting my father at Ballston Spa when I was a lad, and I remember Mr. Clay's placing his hand on my shoulder, with the remark, 'You don't know how popular your father was in Washington. Dolly Madison used to say there was

always something wanting at a dinner or a party if Mr. Taylor was absent.'

"Of Dolly Madison's friendship for my grandfather we have a most valuable token, preserved in a beautiful family heirloom. Dolly Madison gave to my grandfather a small piece of the cloth of silver of Lady Washington's wedding dress. This precious fabric my grandfather had mounted as a brooch encircled with pearls—and the silver fabric is crossed by a true-lover's knot of the hair of himself and his wife, and was given by him to my grandmother. This pin was worn by my mother, Mrs. Oscar Taylor, in 1903, when she unveiled, in the presence of President Roosevelt a memorial stone erected by the Freeport Woman's Club, to mark the spot where the great Lincoln and Douglas debate took place in Freeport in 1858. So do lives long past into the Great Beyond reach down through the vista of years and link themselves with present events."

Miss Taylor also sends a description of a dinner given by the British Minister in Washington. It is a glimpse of official life in the nation's capital in early days, that is as interesting as it is rare. Mr. Taylor, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, writes under date of April 24, 1826:

A DIPLOMATIC DINNER.

"I attended a grand diplomatic dinner given by Mr. Vaughan in commemoration of the birth-day of His Britannic Majesty. The presiding officers of both Houses of Congress; the heads of departments and the Foreign Ministers with their secretaries and attaches were their guests. The ministers with their suites were in court dresses, embroidered with gold—all wore swords and carried chapeaux in their hands while waiting in the receiving room for an hour until dinner was announced. The presiding officers of the two houses led the way into the dining room, and were followed by the Ministers according to their respective rank. After these came the secretaries of legation and the attaches. I did not observe whether the heads of departments, Secretary of State, of War, of the Treasury, etc., preceded or followed the Ministers Plenipotentiary. The contrast to all the finery of the Diplomatic Corps exhibited in the plain citizens dress worn by Mr. Calhoun and myself, was heightened by the consideration that precedence in rank was assigned to us. Without insignia of nobility or knighthood, without ribbands, stars or crosses, we occupied a station in advance of Barons, Counts and Chevaliers. The variety and exquisite flavor of the wines; the delicacy of the almost endless succession of dishes; the ingenuity in the forms of their preparation; the superbly wrought and massive plate; the discipline of the numerous and well marshalled waiters and attendants, with their red velvet vests and small clothes, white stockings and large drab coats lined with silk, and powdered heads, all gave an appearance of stateliness to the ceremony calculated to produce considerable effect. After the last course of dessert, bouquets were distributed made up of hyacinths, tulips, wall flowers and cedar leaves. Having retired to the drawing room coffee was served, and afterwards liquor. I forgot to mention that the health of the King and President were drank standing, in champagne, between the meats and the dessert. We were invited at 5, sat down at 6, and retired at 9. We had green peas brought from Norfolk in Virginia."

UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL.

In the faithful discharge of his public duties; in responding to the frequent demands for addresses on public occasions, on a great variety of topics, and in the practice of his profession, Mr. Taylor led a busy life. He found time, however, to engage in religious work. One of the organizers of the Saratoga County Bible Society in August, 1815, in October following he organized an auxiliary society in the town of Ballston, and was its first president. He also organized a large Union Sunday School in Ballston Spa, which met every Sunday afternoon in the Baptist Church, and of which he was the president, as well as the teacher of a large Bible class of adults.

In the Museum in the High School building, a record of this Sunday School, in the handwriting of Mr. Taylor, is preserved. The record reads:

"Sunday School, June 11, 1820.—Directors until the annual meeting to be held on the last Monday in May, 1821, at seven o'clock P. M., at the Academy: Elder Langworthy, Elder Lee, Rev. Mr. Clark, (Mr. Clark was rector of Christ Church), John W. Taylor, Thomas Palmer, Oren Sage, Hezekiah Middlebrook, Jr., Amos Allcott, George Lockwood, Aaron Nash, James Comstock, Epenetus White, Lyman B. Langworthy, Farquhar McBain, John Marchant, John W. Taylor, president; Amos Allcott, secretary.

Mr. Cande, teacher—Eliza White, Caroline Allcott, Sarah Ann Wright, Eliza Ann Taylor, Camilla Dix.

Miss Roe, teacher—Augusta Lee, Mary Jane Allcott, Almira Middlebrook, Mary Dix, Caroline Pitkin.

Miss Nash, teacher—Mary Ann Burnet, Anna Maria Burtis, Roxa Matilda Nichols, Amanda Bannister, Elizabeth Jack.

J. McMaster, teacher—Charlotte Simmons, Charlotte Smith, Amanda Langworthy, Frances Barnum, Abba Clark.

C. Dunning, teacher—Fidelia Dix, Hannah Barlow, Jerusha Morehouse, Zilpha Palmer, Mary Clark, Lucy Bridges, Sally Maria Gilchrist, Emily Sage, Lucy Lee.

J. Comstock, teacher—James H. Taylor, William W. Allcott, William Lee Roe, James Kidd.

Robert Dunchie, teacher—William C. Barker,

Eliakim C. Barker, John Barlow, Rensselaer Peckham, Nelson Sage, Samuel T. Spears.

Coloured Classes—V. Vanderhuyden, teacher—Nancy Aldridge, Cecilia Adkins, Jane White, Harriet Barnum, Sarah Aldridge.

James Grant, teacher—Rebecca Linet, Judah Linet, Rebecca Linet, 2nd, Phebe Adkins, Charles Adkins.

R. Dunning, teacher—James Kidd, Isaac Craig, John Lacy.

There is also a separate record of a class taught by Mr. Taylor, which is evidently of an earlier date. The class had one hundred and thirty-four members. Among the number were William McCrea, Miles Beach, Edward Watrous, Samuel Cook, Seth C. Baldwin, Epenetus White, James Merrill, Levi H. Palmer, James B. Aldridge and lady, Joel Lee and lady, David McMaster and lady, Moses Williams and lady, Reuben Westcot and lady.

Mr. Taylor also made a record of the Presbyterian members of his class, September 20, 1819: "Mrs. Marshall, George Lockwood, Jacob Van Der Heyden, Mrs. Dix, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Williams, Miss Wendell, Aaron Nash, James Comstock, Mrs. Comstock, Reuben Sears, Mrs. Sears, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. E. D. Smith, Mrs. Asa Allcott, Robert Dunshee, Joseph Eliot, Ulysses F. Doubleday, J. Newton Cande, Czar Dunning, Miss Abigail Smith, Dirk L. Palmer, Mrs. Wendell, Mrs. S. Toby, Mrs. Wetmore, ———— Seeley."

OBSEQUIES OF JOHN W. TAYLOR.

The following account is from the Ballston Journal of September 20, 1854:

"The news of the decease of Hon. John W. Taylor, was received with deep sorrow in this village, the place of his former residence, and which he always delighted to call 'his home.' His last request was that his remains should be buried here; and the affection for the place in which he had received his many and gratifying political triumphs which this request exhibited, produced a deep feeling of honor and respect on the part of our citizens, and revived with all its former intensity the love of those of his associates who are still alive. The proceedings which are reported below, express the deep and fervent feeling which pervaded all parties, and the speeches and resolutions are worthy the occasion—worthy alike of the honored dead and those who assembled to pay respect to a neighbor whose friendship they had enjoyed, and a statesman whose position and talents had conferred honor on his constituents and prominence on his native county.

"Upon the announcement that his remains would reach here on Wednesday noon. a public meeting was immediately called at the Court House, and a large number of citizens assembled to take part in the proceedings. Lebbeus Booth was chosen chairman, and Moses Williams, secretary. The chairman briefly alluded to the object of the meeting. and on motion, Wm. T. Odell, Arnold Harris and John C. Booth were appointed a committee to report suitable resolutions. A committee consisting of Abel Meeker, Geo. G. Scott, James W. Culver, J. H. Spier and Moses Williams, was appointed to receive the remains in behalf of the citizens of the village. While the committee on resolutions was preparing its report, Judge Scott and Abel Meeker addressed the assemblage.

"George G. Scott remarked as follows: 'This is a solemn occasion. The mortal remains of an old and esteemed friend and neighbor are about to arrive amongst us from a distant State, on their way to yonder cemetery, where many, if not all of us, before many years shall elapse, will follow.

'The deceased, in his time, filled for many years a large space in the public eye. Among the many distinguished men of whom this county can boast, there has not been one who has held such high official position, and whose name has been so widely and extensively known, as the individual whom we are now about to follow to his grave.

"Mr. Taylor, as it is well known, was a native of Charlton, in this county. He graduated at Union College in 1803, with the highest honors of that institution. On leaving college, he entered upon the study of the law, and on his admission to the Bar, he commenced its practice in this immediate vicinity. Before he had an opportunity to distinguish himself in his profession, to any considerable extent, he was sent from this county to the House of Assembly. This was about the year 1812—an exciting period in both state and national politics. In December of that year he was elected a Representative in the Congress of the United States from this District, which was then composed of Saratoga, and two or three of our northern counties, and subsequently reduced to Saratoga alone. Soon after he had entered upon his parliamentary career, it was discovered that his talents were admirably fitted for that branch of the public service. Such was the stand that he took in the House of Representatives, that he was twice elected as the presiding officer of that body, the third in position in rank and dignity in the General Government, and through four sessions discharged the duties of that difficult and arduous station with signal ability and to the general satisfaction. For twenty consecutive years he was continued by a confiding constituency a member of the House—a distinction, which, if I mistake not, has in no other instance been attained by a northern representative. At each successive election (with the exception of 1824) he encountered the most systematic, well organized and powerful opposition; but he seemed to be enthroned in the hearts of the people of his district, and, as was said of him by a contemporary, 'he was cheered when he flourished, and strength-

ened when he fainted, as scarce ever was man before.' His commanding abilities and national reputation, no doubt, contributed essentially to his home popularity; but the greatest secret of his success was a happy combination of rare social qualities, seldom found united in the same individual. It was difficult to resist the fascination of his polished manners, and the charm of his society and conversation.

"It is a source of consolation to know that the strong and prevailing desire of the last years of his life is about to be accomplished; that he will be laid by the side of the partner of his youth, and that his bones will repose so near his birth-place, at the home of his manhood, and 'among the people whom he loved so well.'"

"Abel Meeker, Esq., also alluded in some appropriate remarks to the many virtues of the deceased, and related some very affecting reminiscences of the private life of Mr. Taylor.

"Col. Wm. T. Odell, chairman of the committee on resolutions, made the following remarks on the introduction of the subjoined resolutions:

'Mr. Chairman—The committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting, on this solemn occasion, have discharged that duty, and are now ready to report. But before reading the report, permit me, as a member of the committee, to speak for a moment of the veteran statesman, the news of whose death has called us together. Brought up within a short distance of the residence of the father of the deceased statesman, whom I well remember, my earliest recollections of a public man is of John W. Taylor. His polished and affable manners excited my admiration. Perhaps no man in this country understood so well the rules that govern public assemblies, whether deliberative or popular, and no one presided with greater dignity. Long Speaker of the House of Representatives; and after he was succeeded by another gentleman, it is said that no appeal was ever taken from the decision of his successor, without first offering to submit the point to Mr. Taylor. There his word was law.

'Few young men (with whom he was acquainted) studying for the profession to which he belonged, will ever forget his salutary advice. He must have been thoroughly acquainted with history, for his constant advice to young men was to study well the history of their own and their mother country. In his death one more of the statesmen of an age that is nearly passed, has gone to his long home, where political strife and party contests shall no more disturb his rest.'

"The following are the resolutions reported and unanimously adopted:

'Whereas, We have learned with grief of the death of our late distinguished fellow citizen, the Hon. John W. Taylor, and being desirous of testifying our respect for his character as a citizen, a man of noble and generous nature, a lawyer of eminent ability, and a statesman who in his long and distinguished career in both the State and National councils, exhibited in the highest degree his intelligent and disinterested patriotism, and his untiring devotion to the interests and prosperity of his country,

'Resolved, That while bowing in humble submission to this dispensation of an All-wise Providence, we look back upon the life of the great and good man who has gone to his rest with a worthy pride in the memory he has left behind him: That from his first entrance into public life as the representative of this, his native county, in the State Legislature in 1812, and during his distinguished career, extended from 1814 to 1834 as our representative in Congress, in which he stood side by side with Clay, Webster, Calhoun and other worthies in the laudable rivalry of patriotic services, and was chosen to succeed the former great statesman as presiding officer of the House of Representatives, we find no stain upon the record to mar the symmetry of a reputation founded upon abilities of the highest order and a patriotism of the purest integrity.

'Resolved, That his memory has been kept ever green in our hearts since his departure from our midst years ago on account of his declining health, and as a citizen, neighbor and friend we ever have, and ever shall cherish the liveliest recollection of his many virtues: That in his earnest desire to be brought back and buried among us, with whom he had so often sympathized in distress and rejoiced in prosperity, we recognize the warm-hearted affection he ever bore for us and ours.

'Resolved, That we tender our warmest sympathy and condolence to his afflicted family and relatives in their great loss, and recognizing therein the hand of Him 'who doeth all things well,' we are comforted by the assurance his well spent life afforded that he was not found unprepared for his end, but went down into the 'dark valley of the Shadow of Death' full of years and honors, and sustained by a firm and unwavering faith in the promises of the gospel.

'Resolved, That a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be sent to his family, and that they be published in the papers in this county and those of the city of Albany. L. Booth, Chairman; Moses Williams, Secretary.'"

The Ballston Journal, Albert A. Moor, editor, said editorially:

"Hon. John W. Taylor died in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 17th inst., aged 70 years. It will be recollected that he was a native of this county and a resident of this village until 1843, when he removed to the State of Ohio to spend the remainder of his days with his son-in-law, Mr. Beattie.

"He had manifested great anxiety that his body should be interred in the cemetery of Ballston Spa, among his old neighbors and friends, who had always been dear to him. Previous to his death he had written to his valued friend, Lebbeus Booth, requesting that his funeral might be attended from his house; and in accordance with his wishes funeral ceremonies were observed on Thursday, the 21st inst., at the Episcopal Church, by a large concourse of old citizens and friends, whose memories called forth many important events of his life, and dwelt with pleasure on his many virtues.

"He was undoubtedly the most popular man we ever had in this county, was chosen a Republican member of the Legislature in 1811, and was the ablest debater that party had in the Assembly. He was elected to Congress in 1813, and represented this District for twenty successive years. He was chosen Speaker twice from among such men as Randolph Lowndes, Sargent, Archer, Barbour, Floyd, McLane, Mercer, Cobb, Gilmer, etc., a list of great names never surpassed by any deliberative body. He supported the administrations of Madison, Monroe and Adams, and became a firm supporter of Mr. Clay instead of General Jackson. He was a warm advocate of the Missouri Compromise, and his speech upon that question was able and fearless, and was widely circulated.

"He was influential in bringing forward his old friend, Gen. Harrison as a candidate for the Presidency, and was elected to the Senate of this State in the fall of 1840. During the session of '40 and '41 he was attacked with paralysis, from which he never entirely recovered. While he was a Member of Congress, Mr. Taylor was distinguished for soundness of judgment, cautious forecast, and as an able debater. He was eminently useful to the people of his District in procuring pensions for war-worn veterans, and although these duties were promptly discharged, they were always gratuitous."

"He was also remarkable for his social qualities. Affable, generous and polite, he was the delight of his friends. His hospitalities were cheerful and earnest, and no friend left him without a higher estimation of his worth and happier for his visit. His sympathies and liberalities reached the poor, and they have been heard often to bless his name.

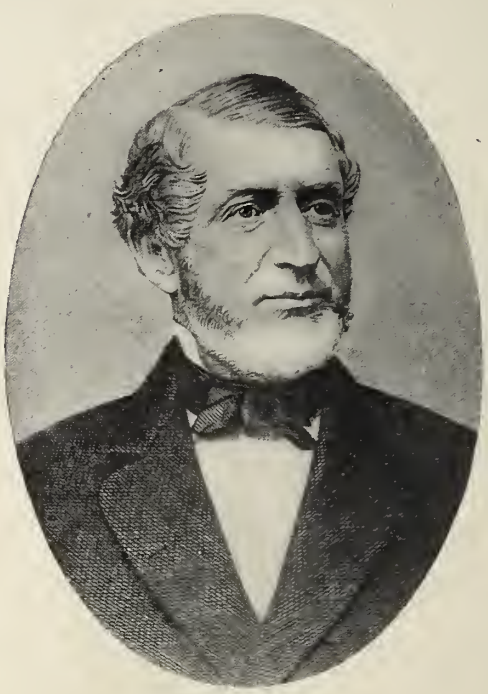
"The State of New York may have regarded him as her most distinguished Representative in Congress; but Saratoga county claimed him as her son."

JAMES M. COOK.

James M. Cook was born in Ballston Spa in 1807, the year in which the village was incorporated. His father was Judge Samuel Cook, who was a Master in Chancery in 1801; Examiner in Chancery in 1823; and one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in 1820.

Following in the footsteps of his father, James M. Cook took up the study of the law and was admitted to the Bar. He was one of the organizers of the Ballston Spa Bank in 1838, and became its first president, serving in that capacity until 1856, when he declined a re-election, having received the appointment of Superintendent of the State Banking Department. About 1845 he purchased the cotton mill on the island, now the Island Paper Mill. His brother, Samuel H. Cook, a year or two previous had purchased the cotton factory a short distance to the west, and the brothers became business partners, and manufactured on an extensive scale patent seamless cotton sacks. The business was continued until the fall of 1862, when the scarcity of cotton, due to the civil war, compelled the mills to close.

Not only among the prominent men of Saratoga county, but also of the State, Mr.



JAMES M. COOK.

Cook stood conspicious for more than a quarter of a century. As a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846 he took a position as among the clearest thinkers, readiest speakers, and ablest debaters in that renowned assemblage of the "collected wisdom of the State." In 1847 he was elected, and in 1849 re-elected State Senator from the Thirteenth District, comprising Saratoga and Washington counties. For four years in succession he maintained a distinguished position in that body, and was recognized as one of the leaders of his party, judicious in counsel, firm in resistance, fearless in attack. In 1851 he was declared elected State Treasurer. The election was contested by Ben-

jamin Welch, Jr., and decided in his favor, Mr. Cook holding the office from January 1, 1852 to November 2 of the same year. He was elected State Comptroller in 1853, and served for the years 1854-55. In this office he displayed financial abilities of a marked character, and in January, 1856, he was appointed Superintendent of the Banking Department, which office he continued to hold until April 16, 1861, when he resigned, having filled it with signal credit to himself, and entire satisfaction to the moneyed corporations whose interests were concerned and affected by his administration.

In 1842 the number of village trustees was increased from three to five, and for the first time a village president was chosen. Mr. Cook was elected Trustee, and his associates in the Board chose him President. He continued to hold the office of Village President and Trustee during the years 1843-44-45. He was also Supervisor of the town of Milton in 1838, 1844 and 1845, and was Chairman of the Board the two latter years.

In 1863, during the stirring days of the civil war, Mr. Cook was again elected to the State Senate, from the Fifteenth District, at this time comprising the counties of Saratoga, Montgomery, Fulton and Hamilton. This was the last of his public life, and the last of his political ambition. He had been prominently mentioned for Governor, but never allowed his name to go before a nominating convention. He began his political life as a Democrat, became a Whig, and was one of the organizers of the Republican party, with which he was identified the remainder of his life.

The War of the Rebellion roused his patriotism to an absorbing passion. He was self-assured and confident of final success during all the checkered fortunes that befel the Union Arms. To the enlistment and organization of troops he gave both time and money. No man was more bitterly opposed to secession than he; no man was firmer in purpose to uphold the national government; no man more willing to make liberal surrender of time and influence and money to the sacred cause of his country, and no man more exultant when final victory perched upon the banners of the Union Armies.

In private life Mr. Cook was a courtly gentleman, suave in manner, and a most entertaining conversationalist. A man of culture, fully informed on all matters of importance pertaining to the times in which he lived, he stood high in the public esteem, and was greatly respected wherever he was known.

He removed to Saratoga Springs in 1866, where he died April 12, 1868, aged sixty-one years. The funeral was attended at the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member. At the close of the church service, charge was taken by Washington Commandery of Knights Templar, and by special train the remains were brought to this village, where, with the solemn ritual of the Masonic fraternity they were entombed in the family vault in the village cemetery, and dust returned to dust in the town in which he was born. A tall granite obelisk marks the resting place of one of Ballston's illustrious sons.

ISAIAH BLOOD.

Isaiah Blood was born in the town of Ballston, February 13, 1810. His father, Sylvester Blood, was a farmer and also a scythe maker, having a shop on the Mourning Kill, about two miles south of the village. At his father's forge, Isaiah Blood laid the foundation of his future wealth and prominence. He was a man of remarkable energy, and whatever he did was well done. His scythes and axes had no superiors in quality, and he had an established reputation before he set up business for himself. He began on a small scale, and enlarged his works as the business grew, until in a few years he had in his employ hundreds of skilled workmen, and his manufactures were in demand throughout the United States, and in Mexico and South America. And to-day, in the great lumber camps of the Northwest, the sturdy woodsman is not content unless his axe bears the stamp "I. Blood."

Mr. Blood was a staunch Democrat of the old school, and his personal popularity often made him the candidate of his party. He was the Supervisor of the town of Milton in 1847, 1859 and 1869. In 1851 he was elected Member of Assembly from the First Assembly District. In 1859 he was elected State Sen-

ator, and was again elected to that position in 1869. He died before the expiration of his term, at his home in "Bloodville," on the 29th of November, 1870, in his sixty-first year.

He was stricken with typhoid fever, and when he became aware that his end was approaching, he requested that every one of his employees should be allowed to visit him at his bedside, as he wished to bid them all a final farewell on earth. Each and all silently approached the couch of the dying man, who

ISAIAH BLOOD.

had been to them not only an employer but a true friend and counsellor, and pressed his hand as it lay upon the covering of the bed—the Senator being too weak and feeble to extend it to those who approached. The scene was most impressive, and many a stout heart was moved to tears at this silent but touching evidence of the warm affection that existed between the stricken employer and his bereaved workmen.

The funeral was one of the largest ever known in Ballston Spa. Business was suspended in the village, and stores and houses were draped in mourning. A special train from Albany brought a large number of personal and political friends, members of the Legislature and State Officials. The funeral procession was led by more than two hundred men employed in the works of the deceased, followed by one hundred carriages, and a large concourse of citizens, the burial being in the family lot in the village cemetery.

As an evidence of their affection and esteem the employees of the axe and scythe works adopted a series of resolutions, among them the following:

"Resolved, That as an employer, his character for the management of his business and the direction of his numerous employees, although remarkable for energy, was ever kind and considerate, and that his association with us at all times was preeminently remarkable for simplicity and affability."

Isaiah Blood was a man of large public spirit, and no one ever did more to promote the business interests and industrial pursuits of the village, just outside of whose limits he had made for himself one of the most charming homes in Saratoga county. He was a loyal supporter of the Union in the War of the Rebellion. Governor Edwin D. Morgan appointed him a member of the War Committee of Saratoga county, to enlist recruits for the army, and he gave much valuable time and with a liberal hand from his purse to maintain the patriotism of old Saratoga.

His grandson, William H. Knickerbacker, now resides in the fine "old homestead mansion," in that part of the town which will always be known as "Bloodville."

GEORGE G. SCOTT.

George Gordon Scott was born at the family homestead on the "Middle line" road, in the town of Ballston, on the 11th of May, 1811. His grandfather, George Scott, settled on this farm in 1774, and was one of the pioneers in the great northern wilderness. His wife was a sister of General James Gordon. In the tory and Indian raid led by Munro in 1780, when General Gordon and almost every settler on the "Middle line" was captured and taken to Canada, the dwelling of Mr. Scott was attacked, and he was stricken down with a tomahawk and left for dead.

James Scott, his only son, was born January 31, 1774. He was a noted surveyor, and always resided in the town of his birth, and died in 1857. His wife was Mary Botsford, a native of Derby, Connecticut, who died the same year.

The subject of this sketch, who came to be universally known as "Judge Scott," was the only child of James and Mary Scott. Entering Union College, he graduated at the early

GEORGE G. SCOTT.

age of twenty, and immediately began the study of law in the office of Palmer and Goodrich, at Ballston Spa. He was admitted to the Bar in 1834, and for fifty years continued in the active practice of his profession in this village.

In 1838 he was appointed by Governor Marcy a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and at the time of his death was the sole survivor of the old Common Pleas bench in this county. He was Member of Assembly in 1856, and was re-elected in 1857, and in that year was elected to the State Senate from the 15th District. He declined a re-election, and was succeeded by Hon. Isaiah Blood. In 1860 he removed from the Milton part of Ballston Spa to the south side of High street, in his native town. The following year he was elected Supervisor of Ballston, and held the office continuously for twenty-one years, and after this long period of faithful service, was compelled to decline a renomination in most positive terms, in order to obtain a well-earned release from the cares and duties of the office.

At the celebration of the Centennial of American Independence in Ballston Spa, July 4, 1876, at the request of the county officials Judge Scott delivered an historical address relating to Saratoga county, speaking to the assembled thousands from a platform in the yard of the Sans Souci, and in 1877 he had the distinguished honor of presiding at Bemis Heights, on the occasion of the Centennial of that decisive battle of the Revolution.

Possessed of a very retentive memory, and from his youth a close student of history, he was probably more familiar with local history than any other man of his time, and for more than half a century was an acknowledged authority on all matters of historic interest connected with the village and county.

He married Lucy, a daughter of Joel Lee, of Ballston Spa. Judge Scott was eminently successful in the practice of his profession, which he continued until about two years before his death, when failing health compelled him to retire from active practice. He died September 7, 1886, in his seventy-sixth year.

His son, Hon. James Lee Scott, succeeded to the law practice of his father, and a few years since was appointed United States Commissioner in Bankruptcy for this District. He now resides in Saratoga Springs.

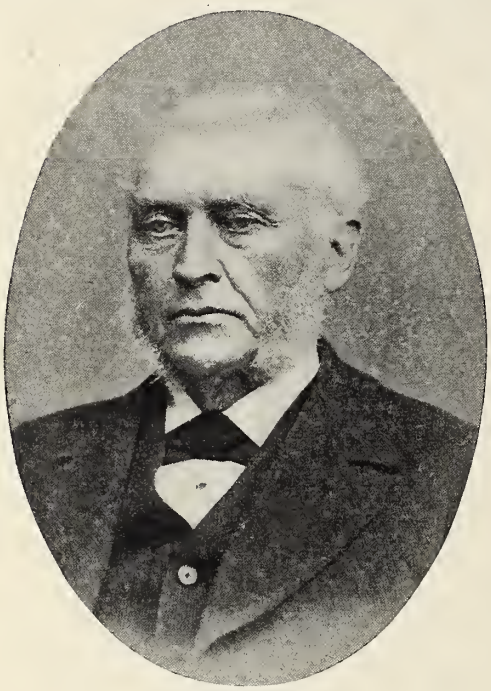
JAMES W. HORTON.

Among the many honored names in the history of Ballston Spa, none is held in greater esteem or more loving remembrance than the name of the subject of this brief memoir. More widely known throughout Saratoga county than any other man of his time, his name is written large across the page of local history, and his memory shall endure.

James Watson Horton was born in the town of Ballston, at Academy Hill, September 29,

1810. He was a son of Ezekiel and Clarissa (Watson) Horton. His father was a native of Hebron, Connecticut, and settled in Ballston about 1795. His mother was a daughter of Captain Titus Watson, of the Revolutionary War, and was born in the town of Ballston in 1780.

Mr. Horton was educated in the common schools and at the "Ballston Academy." In 1829, at the age of nineteen he came to reside in Ballston Spa, and engaged in mercantile



JAMES W. HORTON.

pursuits. He was first married, in 1836, to Abba Clark, of Ballston Spa, who died in 1850. His second wife was Julia E. Betts, of Troy, to whom he was united in marriage January 14, 1852. The children by the first marriage were James C., Stephen S., William B., and Clara V., widow of the late George C. Beecher. There were two daughters by the second marriage, Jennie, who died October 10, 1904, and Annie Watson Horton, now Mrs. Aldrich. Mrs. Beecher and Mrs. Aldrich reside in Ballston Spa, and are the sole survivors of the family.

When President Lincoln issued the call for volunteers in 1861, Stephen S. Horton, enlisted in the Seventy-seventh New York Volunteers, and soon rose to the rank of Captain of Company B, a Ballston company. He was twice wounded, the last time very severely, at the battle of Antietam. After the war he made his home in Georgetown, Colorado, where he entered upon the practice of the law, having been admitted to the Bar just previous to the breaking out of the civil war. He died several years ago.

William B. Horton, enlisted in the Forty-fourth New York Volunteers. He was wounded at the battle of Groveton, Va., September 14, 1861, and died of his wound in the hospital in Washington, D. C., aged twenty years.

James C. Horton, the eldest of the family, removed to Lawrence, Kansas, in 1859, and during the civil war was one of the defenders of the town against the rebel guerilla Quantrell. Soon after the close of the war, he removed to Kansas City, where he established a wholesale drug business, in which he continued until his death in May of the present year. He served as County Clerk in Kansas and also as State Senator, and declined a nomination for Governor.

In 1840, under General Harrison's administration, James W. Horton was appointed Postmaster of Ballston Spa. In 1845 he was elected clerk of Saratoga county, and held the office continuously for nearly thirty-nine years. He was serving the last year of his thirteenth term at the time of his death, which occurred at his home February 13, 1885.

In politics he was a Whig, and maintained his alliance with that party until its dissolution in 1852. He identified himself with the Republican party on its organization in 1854, and for the rest of his life was an earnest supporter of the principles of that party. His confidence in the ultimate success of the North in the war of the Rebellion never wavered. When one of his brave boys was laid in a soldier's grave in the village cemetery, though overcome with grief, he said: "Will died a noble death, in a righteous cause, and his death, with the thousands of other brave boys in blue who have fallen, will not be in vain." His whole political life was a fine illustration of the sentiment that "he who serves his country best serves his party best."

Mr. Horton was a member of Christ Church, (Episcopal,) and for fifty years a

vestryman, and for twenty-eight years the Senior Warden of the church. He was a true friend to the poor, and many were the recipients of his charity. At his funeral, his pastor, the Rev. Charles Pelletreau, spoke from these peculiarly appropriate words: "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace." How appropriate the text was is shown by the last words of Mr. Horton. A short time before he died, he said to a friend: "I know you all; my head is clear, my heart is right."

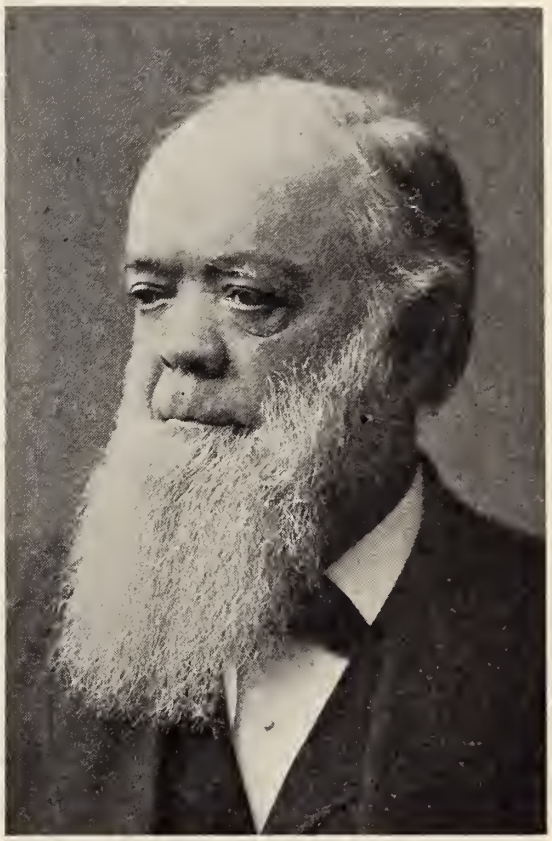
In announcing the death of Mr. Horton, the Ballston Journal said: "The shadow of a great sorrow fell upon Ballston on Friday morning, when it was known that James W. Horton had exchanged his citizenship here for a citizenship in the 'heavenly places.' His useful, unselfish, honorable life, is an example which all may emulate with advantage to themselves and to society."

In the County Court, of which he had been clerk for almost forty years, a memorial service was held, addresses being made by several prominent members of the Saratoga County Bar. One of the speakers, an intimate friend for many years, said: "A manly man; an honest man—the noblest work of God. Ballston's honor; the country's pride; the idol of his family; the admiration of his friends; the poor man's generous benefactor; the church's strong supporter and devoted member. Forever let his name be honored, and his memory cherished."

In the village cemetery a plain white stone marks his grave. In the chancel of Christ Church, which he served faithfully for so many years, a beautiful triple window is a fitting memorial to "Ballston's best loved citizen."

GEORGE WEST.

A name that will always be associated with the business development of Ballston Spa, as the founder of the largest manufacturing industry, not only in Ballston Spa, but also in Saratoga county, is that of Hon. George West. He was born in Bradninch, England, on the 17th of February, 1823. He received a good common-school education, and early in life learned very thoroughly the making of paper in all its branches. In February, 1849, when he had reached his twenty-sixth year, he came with his young wife to this country. He was employed in New Jersey about one year, when he secured employment in a large paper mill in Massachusetts. He soon became manager of the mill, and two or three years later a partner in the business. In 1861 he removed to Ballston Spa, and took the position of superintendent of one of the large paper mills at Rock City Falls.



GEORGE WEST.

Not very long after the civil war began in 1861, Southern cotton became very scarce, and our cotton factories, and the cotton bag mills, experienced great difficulty in procuring the staple article demanded in their business, and the bag mills of the Cook's were compelled to close. Some of the paper mills along the Kayaderosseras also suspended operations. The demand for flour sacks soon became very great, and in the emergency Mr. West saw a splendid business opportunity. Leasing an idle paper mill he announced that

he would make bags of paper. It was doubted that he could make a bag strong enough to carry fifty pounds of flour. But he soon demonstrated that it could be done. He began the manufacture of manilla paper, and employed Martin V. B. White, an ingenious mechanic, to construct the patterns, and to make by hand the first lot of flour sacks. They were manufactured in the old Union store, in the north-end of the village, which was vacant at the time. The paper bags were all that Mr. West claimed for them, and orders from all parts of the state began to pour in upon him. He erected a bag mill adjoining his paper mill at Rock City Falls, and here, with the slow process of making the bags by hand, was laid the foundation of his enormous business and his princely fortune.

In 1862 Mr. West purchased the Empire Mill at Rock City Falls, which he had been operating under a lease. In 1866 he built the Excelsior Mill at Rock City Falls, and from time to time, as his rapidly increasing business demanded, he purchased or built several other mills along the stream.

The death of Jonas Hovey in 1875 brought his four cotton factories, his fine mansion on Milton avenue, and a large number of tenement houses into the market, and in August of that year Mr. West purchased the entire property. He converted one of the factories on the island into a paper mill, and the other into a bag mill, and a few years later, when the cotton factory on Milton avenue was destroyed by fire, he erected in its place the large Union Mill, establishing his bag factory in the woolen mill adjoining on the west. About 1880 he purchased the paper mill at Hadley, on the Hudson river, and at once began the erection of a very large mill. It was rapidly pushed to completion, and when the machinery started, Mr. West owned and operated nine paper mills, a pulp mill, and two bag mills, manufacturing nothing but manilla paper and paper bags. He was the largest manufacturer in this line in the world.

After Mr. West had been making bags for several months by the slow hand process, one day a man of rather ordinary appearance called at his office in Rock City Falls and said to him that a machine could be constructed to do the work with much greater rapidity. Mr. West at once entered into a contract with his visitor to build a machine in his mill, and within a few weeks the machine was in successful operation. The mechanical principles of this first bag-machine were identical with those of the wonderful machines of the present day. Mr. West was the pioneer in the manufacture of paper bags, one of the largest industries in the world today.

In politics George West was an ardent Republican, and in the fall of 1871 he was elected Member of Assembly from the First District, and was re-elected in 1872-73-74-75. In 1881 he was elected Representative in Congress and served two terms. He was again elected in 1887. Having given largely of his time for eleven years to the public service, he declined a re-nomination to Congress, but his zeal for party success never flagged, and he was always to be found in the front rank fighting valiantly for the principles of the Republican party.

Mr. West was a member of the Methodist Church, and his liberality enabled that society in 1892 to erect the present fine church edifice. One-half of the cost was Mr. West's contribution, besides the gift of the organ, and other fixtures. He was also a princely giver to the Round Lake Association, the fine museum building at this beautiful resort, costing $20,000, being his gift, and also a subscription of $25,000 to the endowment fund at that institution. He was always ready to give of his time and his money to promote the interests of the village, or of any worthy cause.

Mr. West associated with himself in the business his son, George West, Jr., and his son-in-law, Douglas W. Mabee. In the year 1899 the immense business was sold to the Union Bag and Paper Company, and Mr. West retired from active business. He died at his home on Milton avenue, September 20, 1901, in his seventy-ninth year.

DR. LEVERETT MOORE.

Leverett Moore was born at Palmer, Mass., December 9, 1805, and was in every respect a self-made man. Left an orphan at the age of seven years, he worked his way unaided to the exceptionally high position he reached in his profession and in society. He worked

his way through a classical school at Granville, Mass., and the medical college at Pittsfield, from which he graduated in 1829. He settled in Ballston Spa in 1840, succeeding to the large practice of Dr. Samuel Freeman, who retired from practice and removed to Saratoga Springs. Besides his practice as a physician, and attention to his duties as a member of the Saratoga County Medical Association and of the Union Medical Association of Washington, Warren and Saratoga counties, Dr. Moore became interested in

DR. LEVERETT MOORE.

manufacturing, and was for several years a member of the firm of Wakeman, Wait & Co., oil-cloth manufacturers. He was a director for many years of the Ballston Spa Bank, and was also a village trustee. Although he retired from active practice at the age of seventy-one years, yet his patrons almost compelled him to care for them in times of sickness for many years. He lived to the ripe old age of nearly eighty-seven years to enjoy the large competency he had acquired. His death occurred July 13, 1892.

HENRY L. GROSE.

Henry Lawrence Grose was born in Minden, Montgomery county, N. Y., September 26, 1816. His early education he received from his father, who was a graduate of Columbia College, New York, and in every way qualified to impart instruction in the usual academic course, paying particular attention to Latin and Greek.

He fitted himself for the medical profession in the office of Drs. Webster and Snyder, of Fort Plain, two of the most eminent physicians of Montgomery county, as was the custom for students in those days.

He began the practice of medicine at Owego, Tioga county, N. Y., in 1836, and through many changes and other professional duties, he always continued his medical practice together with other callings.

While at Owego he was induced to study for the ministry, and he took a theological course at Oneida Institute, Utica, N. Y., where he graduated in 1840, and was afterwards made an honorary member of the Alumni Association of Madison University at Hamilton, Madison county, N. Y.

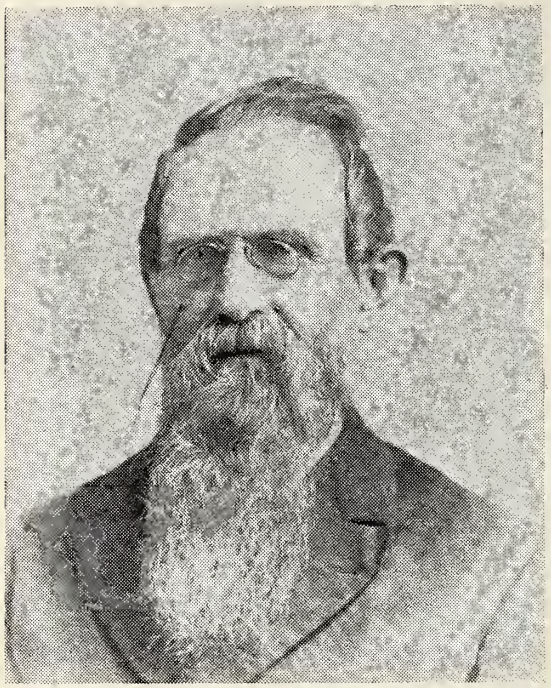
For twenty years his whole time was devoted to the gospel ministry of the Baptist denomination. His pastorates during this period were at Danby and Ithaca, Tompkins county; Coxsackie and Athens, Greene county; North East, Dutchess county; Galway, Saratoga county, and Mannsville, Jefferson county.

April 1, 1860, he purchased the Ballston Journal, and assumed the editorial chair, which he occupied until his death, nearly forty years later. Mr. Grose did not withdraw from the ministry, but for twenty years longer, until 1880, much of his time was given to the profession which always maintained a strong hold upon his affections. Besides his editorial duties he found time to serve as pastor the churches at Milton and Middle Grove, and was for five years pastor of the Baptist Church at Hydeville, Vt., removing with his family to that place, and returning to Ballston Spa at the close of his pastorate. He also supplied the pulpit at Burnt Hills for several months on two occasions when the church was without a pastor, and also for nearly a year the Baptist Church at Saugerties, N. Y. He was appointed School Commissioner in 1874, and was elected to the office in 1875.

Soon after taking charge of the Journal Mr. Grose began studying for the legal profession, but did not apply for admission to the bar until January, 1880, when he received

a diploma authorizing him to practice in the highest courts of the state.

Mr. Grose was a tireless student throughout his long life. He was thorough in everything he undertook, and often said, "Nothing is worth doing that is not done well." His standard of excellence was high, and it is a delight to-day to read anything he ever wrote. The matter is so well chosen, the diction so



REV. H. L. GROSE.

clear and concise that they have a solid substantiality that will endure. Mr. Grose's many sidedness cannot better be described than in the following lines of Cooper's, nor is the picture, as applied to him, at all overdrawn:

"I have seen a veteran warrior in the Christian field,
Who never saw the sword he could not wield;
Grave without dullness, learned without pride,
Exact, yet not precise, though meek, keen eyed;
A man that would have foiled at their own play,
A dozen would-be's of the modern day;
Who, when occasion justified its use,
Had art as bright, as ready to produce;
Could fetch the records of an earlier age,
Or from philosophy's enlightened page
His rich materials, and regale your ear
With strains it was a privilege to hear:
Yet, above all, his luxury supreme,
And his chief glory was the gospel theme;
There he was copious as old Greece or Rome,
His happy eloquence seemed there at home—
Ambitious not to shine, or to excel,
But, to treat justly what he loved so well."

His remarkably active life continued until within ten days of his death. With the same calm and trustful spirit in which he lived he at last met the Great Conqueror. Unflinchingly he yielded up his spirit, and sweetly, without a murmur, he sank to rest the evening of September 7, 1898.

"Death but leads him on,
His test work done, his guerdon won,
To greater action and a nobler sphere."

James Comstock, the pioneer editor of Ballston Spa, was born in Adams, Mass. He came to Ballston in 1803, and in 1811 purchased The Independent American, then published at Court House Hill, and removed the establishment to Ballston Spa. He was a Whig in politics, and as editor of a village paper for thirty-five years, advocated the policies and principles of that party. He was a man of strong individuality, a vigorous writer, and one of the leading men of the community. He was appointed postmaster in 1849. He died July 26, 1851, aged about seventy years.

Arnold Harris was born in the town of Ballston February 22, 1808. He came to Ballston Spa in 1827; was a clerk seven years; in 1834 entered the hardware business with James H. Spier, the firm being Spier & Harris; in 1839 his brother bought out Mr. Spier, and the firm name was A. & W. Harris until 1842, when he purchased the interest of his brother and conducted the business alone until 1882, when his head clerk, Fred Armer, was taken into partnership, the firm name being F. Armer, and so continued until 1889, when Mr. Armer became his successor.

Mr. Harris was a man of mark; an active politician of the Whig party, and as such was three times elected county treasurer, serving in that capacity nine years, 1844-5-6, and 1850-55, He was an adherent of the Republican party from its organization, a man of positive convictions and keen political foresight. He was for forty years a director, and thirty-five years vice-president of the Ballston Spa National Bank. He died January 15, 1891, respected and honored by all who knew him.

JONATHAN S. BEACH was born in Charlton in 1797, and while a boy came to Ballston Spa to reside. At the time of his death he was one of the oldest citizens, and in his earlier years did much to build up the manufacturing and other interests of the village. He was also engaged on many of the public works of the State. For several years he was associated in business enterprises with Harvey Chapman, during which time they constructed the first railroads in the State from Albany to Schenectady, and from Schenectady to Saratoga. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church in early life, and was a constituent member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ballston Spa. He died October 31, 1877, aged eighty years.

WHEELER K. BOOTH was born in the town of Galway May 23, 1806. He was a prominent resident of this village for more than fifty years, and was one of our most successful merchants. He was a member of Christ Church from his early manhood; for forty years a member of the vestry, and for twenty years, its junior warden. Andrew S. Booth, president of the Ballston Spa National Bank, is a son of Wheeler K. Booth. He died June 2, 1877, aged seventy-one years.

JOHN BROTHERSON was born in Charlton, in June, 1806. At the time of his death, October 14, 1887, he was the senior member of the Saratoga County Bar. Mr. Brotherson was a man who possessed remarkable force of character, and great physical energy. He was indefatigable in the interests of his clients, and while in active practice was deemed to be a very formidable opponent. He was the leader in the Spiritualist society in Ballston Spa.

ROBERT P. MCMASTER was born in Ballston Spa April 3, 1808. In early manhood he spent two years in business in Mexico and then located in New Orleans, where for forty years he was a prominent banker and broker. He purchased the residence of Dr. Samuel Freeman, on High street, removed the house, and built a spacious mansion, in recent years the residence of Andrew W. Smith. Nearly one-half of each year Mr. McMaster spent in his native village. He died May 12, 1873, in his sixty-sixth year. In an obituary notice were the following words: "It will be long before the kindly face and manner, the simple and honest character, the good and true man that has passed away, will be forgotten."

JAMES OTIS LEACH was born in Taunton, Mass., in January, 1811. He came to Ballston Spa in 1842, and for some years acted as superintendent in the cotton mills of James M. and Samuel H. Cook. During the war of the rebellion he was United States Internal Revenue Assessor for this district. He was a trustee and president of the village in 1857. In June, 1869, he was appointed postmaster in place of M. L. Williams, resigned, and held that office at the time of his death, January 13, 1881. Mr. Leach was a member of the Presbyterian Church; also a director of the First National Bank.

JOHN MCLEAN was born in Scotland. He came to America in early life, and resided in Fultonville, N. Y. In 1860, in company with Mr. Donaldson of that village, he purchased a paper mill at Factory Village, the firm being Donaldson & McLean. Subsequently he became the sole proprietor. Mr. McLean was a man of mark, high-toned, gentlemanly, and in politics conspicuously Republican. He was zealously patriotic in supporting the Union cause in the civil war. He was Supervisor of the town of Milton, and was frequently urged to accept a legislative nomination, but he was not inclined to public life. His religion was that of the Scotch Presbyterians, and he was identified with the interests of the Presbyterian Church in this village, though not a communicant. He built and presented to the church the chapel in Factory Village. He died August 4, 1881, aged sixty-one years.

ALBERT P. BLOOD was born in the town of Ballston April 11, 1822. He was a son of Sylvester Blood. A life-long resident of the village, and one of its prosperous merchants, he had a wide circle of friends. A member of the Baptist Church from early childhood, he was for many years a deacon of the church. He was a member of Franklin Lodge, Warren Chapter and Washington Commandery, Knights Templar. He was also, for two years, a village trustee and president of the village.

JOHN WAIT was for forty years a prominent manufacturer of the village, Wait's oilcloths gaining a reputation second to none in the country. He was actively interested in the development and growth of the village, was a village trustee, and was Supervisor of Milton in 1870. He was born in Saratoga Springs, and died at his home on Front street in this village, September 12, 1875, aged sixty-three years.

WILLIAM T. ODELL was born in the town of Ballston in 1814. He commenced the study of the law in the office of George G. Scott in 1837, and was admitted to the Bar in 1839. For many years he was a leading member of the Bar of this village and county, and served two terms as District Attorney, 1851 to 1857. Colonel Odell was a Democrat, and strong in his political beliefs. He was Supervisor of Milton in 1858 and 1860. He obtained his title of "Colonel" from many years service in the State militia. He died March 8, 1875, aged sixty-one years.

HIRO JONES was born in Strafford, Vt., March 31, 1816. In 1851 he came to Ballston Spa, and at once began the manufacture of shirts and drawers in the Glen woolen mill. Subsequently he bought the brick factory on Prospect street, now the paper bag factory, and continued the business until 1868, when he sold the mill to Jonas A. Hovey. Mr. Jones was among the leading men of the Republican party, and was Supervisor of Milton in the years 1866-67-68-71, and was also a village trustee, and president of the village. On the organization of the First National Bank in 1865, he was chosen President, and from 1868 until his decease, he gave his whole time to his duties in connection with the Bank. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and as a citizen was one of the worthiest and most highly respected in the community. He died July 23, 1879, in his sixty-fourth year.

JOHN B. MCLEAN was a life-long resident of the village and for twenty-five years prior to his death was deputy county clerk, under James W. Horton. His painstaking habits, and strong memory made him very efficient in this position. He was an enthusiastic Republican, and a leader in the party, and no man rendered more effective service to secure the large Republican majorities for which Saratoga county has been noted. He was a member of Franklin Lodge, F. & A. M., Warren Chapter, and Washington Commandery of Knights Templar. He died at his home in this village on December 24, 1879, aged sixty years.

JOHN J. LUTHER was born in Ballston Spa December 31, 1819, and his whole life was passed in his native village. For more than thirty years he was a prominent and sucessful business man of the village. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, receiving the degrees of the order in Franklin Lodge, Warren Chapter and Washington Commanddery. He died October 12, 1891, aged seventy-two years.

ORVILLE D. VAUGHN was born in Queensbury, Washington county, April 6, 1820. He located in Ballston Spa in 1847, and for twenty years was engaged in the marble headstone business. He was elected county treasurer in 1855, and served two terms. Later he was engaged in the lumber business in Washington, D. C., and in Minnesota. His place was in the front rank of our honorable and successful business men. His last years were spent in this village, where he died December 12, 1906, aged eighty-six years.

RUSSELL P. CLAPP was born in Ballston Spa July 31, 1820, and through all his life he retained his home in this village. His first business was that of a merchant. In 1858 he became Secretary of the Troy and New York Steamboat Company, having his office in Troy. In 1870 he became the Secretary of "The People's Line," with his office in New York. This position he held until his death, December 3, 1877. Mr. Clapp was a prominent member of the Baptist Church, a deacon for twenty-six years, and for many years superintendent of the Sunday School. A friend paid him this beautiful tribute: "His religion made his face and his heart sunny. Wherever he came he brought with him joy, peace and love." He was eminently social and courteous. Ever thoughtful for others, he found his pleasure in contributing to their happiness. His death was a public bereavement.

DAVID MAXWELL was born in Charlton February 28, 1820. He came to Ballston Spa when twenty-one years of age, studied law, and was admitted to the Bar. He was a justice of sessions three years, and clerk of the board of supervisors several years. He was also a justice of the peace for many years. He enjoyed the friendship and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances. Late in life he removed to Saratoga Springs, where he died August 25, 1891, in the seventy-second year of his age.

JOHN R. WILSON, one of the most widely known citizens of Ballston Spa, was born in the town of Ballston. In early life he was a farmer. January 1, 1856, he was appointed railroad station agent in this village, and continued in that position until his decease on March 6, 1882, in his sixty-first year. He was for many years a member of the Baptist Church.

LAWRENCE W. BRISTOL was born in the town of Austerlitz, Columbia county, March 18, 1824. He came to Ballston Spa in 1847, and this village was his home from that time until his death, half a century later, on March 11, 1897. He was a leading merchant, one of the incorporators and for many years a director of the First National Bank, a village trustee, and for several years a member of the Board of Education. He was an honored citizen, respected by all who knew him.

LINDLEY MURRAY CRANE was born in Dalton, Mass., March 17, 1822. He came to Ballston at the age of twenty-three, and purchased the first paper mill built on the Kayaderosseras, now known as the Eagle Mill. He built a large mansion opposite the mill, where he resided for many years. The locality has ever since been known as Craneville. Gifted with an inventive genius, he was the first to adapt paper to various new and valuable uses, such as collars and cuffs, belting, pails and household utensils. When in 1862, the government felt the necessity of a paper for currency uses that would resist the efforts of counterfeiters, Mr. Crane solved the problem by the invention of the fiber process, which proved to be a success never before attained. He made samples, sent them to the treasury department at Washington, and exhibited them to many interested parties, before taking out a caveat, and very soon to his surprise, large quantities of this kind of paper were offered and sold to the government. He reaped no benefit from his invention. The last years of his life he was a resident of Ballston Spa, where, by his genial nature, he attached to himself a large circle of friends. He died October 20, 1879, aged fifty-seven years.

CALVIN F. WILEY was born in Chatham, Columbia county, May 7, 1825, and came to Ballston Spa in 1860, and was employed as clerk in the dry goods store of C. M. Noxon. In 1869 he succeeded to the business of Mr. Noxon, which he conducted successfully until his decease on June 29, 1886. Mr. Wiley was a member of the Baptist Church, and for several years was a deacon of the church. Through his uniform courtesy, integrity and fair dealing he enjoyed an enviable reputation in the community. He died June 29, 1886, aged sixty-one years.

HENRY A. MANN, son of James Mann, was born in the town of Ballston January 28, 1829. For several years he was engaged in mercantile trade in this village. He was elected county treasurer, and assumed the duties of the office January 1, 1861, and continued to hold the office until 1876. He was one of the first board of directors of the First National Bank, and its vice-president for many years. He served the village as trustee six years, and was village president in 1870-1-2-3-5. He died April 24, 1892, aged seventy years.

SAMUEL HAIGHT was born in Troy, N. Y., October 22, 1832. In 1878 he engaged in the tannery business in Milton Centre. In December, 1881, a fire destroyed the entire plant. He purchased the Wait oil-cloth factory in this village, and removed his business to Ballston Spa. He died quite suddenly at his home in this village October 4, 1891, aged fifty-nine years. The employer of a very large number of men, he won and retained their esteem by kindness and fair dealing. A friend paid him this beautiful tribute: "Mr. Haight did right because he loved right. If ever a man carried into practical illustration the spirit of the golden rule, it was he."

George W. Chapman was born in Ballston Spa in 1833, and was the younger son of Harvey Chapman. He was a graduate of Union College and of the Albany Law School. In 1858 he began the practice of law in this village. In 1864 he was elected Member of Assembly; in 1869 was appointed canal commissioner, and was elected to that office the following year. He was also a Supervisor of the town of Milton. He died in this village, which had always been his home, on April 20, 1881, aged forty-four years.

Edwin H. Chapman, elder brother of George W. Chapman, was born in Ballston Spa in 1828, and for many years was engaged in business here as a manufacturer. He was village trustee three terms, and village president in 1856, and also Supervisor of Milton in 1864-5. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was a popular man in the community, with a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. He died December 14, 1896, at the home of one of his sons in the West, aged sixty-eight years.

Seth Whalen was born at West Milton in 1835. In 1861 he became a student in the law office of William T. Odell in this village, and was admitted to the Bar in 1864. He was School Commissioner in the years 1871 and 1873, and President of the village Board of Education for several years. On the death of James W. Horton in February, 1885, he was appointed county clerk by Governor Hill, and in November following was elected to that office. He died November 26, 1886, before the close of the first year of his elective term. Mr. Whalen was a member of Christ Church, and one of its vestrymen. He was also a member of Franklin Lodge, F. & A. M., Warren Chapter, and Washington Commandery. As a citizen he was pure, above reproach, honored by all; without an enemy and with hosts of friends.

Neil Gilmour was born in Scotland, in January, 1840, and came to America when sixteen years of age. He graduated from Union College, and for a few years was a teacher in the Academy of his brother, Rev. James Gilmour, on Pleasant street. He studied for the profession of the law, and was admitted to the Bar. He was elected School Commissioner for the first district in 1866, and again in 1872. In 1874 he was elected by the Legislature Superintendent of Public Instruction, which position he filled for three terms—nine years. President Arthur then appointed him receiver of public moneys for South Dakota, and for two years Mr. Gilmour made the city of Pierre his home. On returning to this village, he became the general manager for the State of New York of the Aetna Life Insurance Company, with his office in Albany. In official life Mr. Gilmour was an efficient public servant; among his friends and acquaintances he was known as a genial, whole-souled gentleman. He died March 31, 1901, in his sixty-second year.

Enos Rogers Mann was born at Willow Glen, in the town of Stillwater, June 8, 1840. He was educated in the district schools, and at the Ballston Spa Institute, of which Rev. Deodatus Babcock was principal. He taught for a few years in district schools, and in 1864 was admitted to the Bar. A year later, in company with Sanford H. Curtis, he established the Ballston Democrat in this village, and throughout the remaining years of his life was engaged in newspaper work, filling positions on the Albany Argus, Troy Press, New York Tribune, Saratoga Sentinel, Saratoga Press and The Saratogian. Mr. Mann was the possessor of a retentive memory and a graceful and entertaining writer. Twenty years ago he compiled and published "The Bench and Bar of Saratoga County," a valuable contribution to the legal history of the county. He was a member of the Episcopal Church from his sixteenth year. He died at his home in this village March 29, 1905, aged sixty-five years.

Matthew Vassar was born in Poughkeepsie, March 24, 1844. He came to Ballston Spa in 1870, and was engaged in the tannery business at Milton Centre with his brother-in-law, Samuel Haight. The business was removed to this village, and after the death of Mr. Haight, was carried on by Mr. Vassar and Mr. Haight's sons, Theodore and H. Vassar Haight. When the American Hide & Leather Company purchased the plant, Mr. Vassar retired from business. He was a vestryman of Christ Church, and for thirty-seven years was identified with the village

and its welfare. He died March 13, 1907, aged sixty-three years.

George C. Beecher was born in Ballston Spa September 29, 1844. At an early age he began his business career in New Orleans, and subsequently was engaged in the drug business in Troy. In 1865, at the organization of the First National Bank in this village, he accepted the position of teller. During his connection with the Bank, and for some years thereafter, he conducted a large insurance business. Resigning his position as teller, he became the superintendent and book-keeper in the paper mill of his stepfather, John McLean. He was a vestryman of Christ Church, and for several years village treasurer. He stood high in Masonic circles, being a member of the local lodges, and having attained to the 32d degree in Masonry. Commanding the esteem and confidence of his elders, and of the whole community, he died June 16, 1880, at the early age of thirty-five years. His father, Callender Beecher, died in 1849 at about the same age, just at the opening of what promised to be a successful career in the profession of the law.

Frank Jones was born in Ballston Spa October 19, 1851, the son of the late Hiro Jones. He was a graduate of Williams College. Soon after completing his education he engaged in the manufacture of paper at the old Cook mill in Factory Village. He continued this business ten years, and then became one of the proprietors of the Geyser Spring. He was secretary of the Mt. McGregor railroad, and also superintendent. In 1889 he was appointed postmaster. He was sheriff of the county in 1895-6-7. He was again appointed postmaster March 22, 1898; was reappointed in 1902 and was holding the office at the time of his death, October 20, 1904. Mr. Jones was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and one of its elders for several years. He was a Past Master of Franklin Lodge; a member of Warren Chapter, Washington Commandery, and Oriental Temple, Mystic Shrine. A life-long friend, said of him: "In his death we lose a generous, warm-hearted and kindly neighbor, and the people in general an agreeable and efficient official and business associate."

John Person was born in Batchellerville July 16, 1862. He graduated from Williams College in 1886, and immediately began the study of the law in the office of Judge L'Amoreaux in this village. He was admitted to the Bar in May, 1888, and at once entered upon the successful practice of his profession. He was elected District Attorney in November, 1892, and entering upon his duties January 1, 1893, his first criminal trial was in a case of murder, which he managed with such skill that he was highly commended by the presiding justice, the late Hon. Leslie W. Russell. His successful administration of the office led to his renomination July 23, 1895. He died September 15, following, at the early age of thirty-five, and at the beginning of what promised to be a brilliant career in his chosen profession. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Batchellerville.

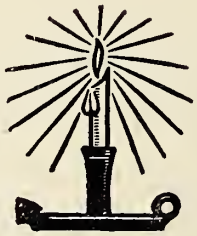
George E. Knox was by profession a dentist, and practiced for some years when he first came to Ballston Spa. He then engaged in mercantile trade, and later became a large manufacturer of ladies' hoop skirts and corsets. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and also of the Masonic fraternity. He died January 8, 1905, in his seventy-seventh year, having lived in the village, honored and esteemed, for half a century.

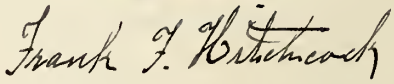
James H. Spier was a leading citizen and business man during the first half century of village life. He was associated with Arnold Harris for several years in the hardware business. He was appointed postmaster in 1851, on the death of James Comstock. He died in 1867, aged seventy years.

John McKown was a prominent business man of the village. He came to Ballston Spa in 1838 and began the cabinet-making business, and also undertaking, on Milton avenue, and continued in business at the same stand for forty years. He was highly respected in the community. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and also a member of Franklin Lodge, Warren Chapter, and Washington Commandery. He died in 1880, aged seventy years.

Stephen B. Medbery was born in the town of Greenfield, Saratoga county, August 4, 1815, and died at his home in Ballston Spa October 19, 1907, aged ninety-two years. In early life he made his home in this village, and at the time of his decease was its oldest resident. He became the proprietor of the Village Hotel (now Medbery Hotel) in 1849, and continued as its landlord for more than thirty years. He served the village as trustee in 1850. In his youth he became a member of the Episcopal Church, and was warden and vestryman of Christ Church for more than sixty years, and was a senior warden at the time of his death, having faithfully served the church in this capacity for over half a century. Mr. Medbery had a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances by whom he was highly esteemed.

James F. Peckham was born in Ballston Spa, April 28, 1828. He was a son of Stephen Peckham, and a grand-son of Jonathan Peckham, who was the first settler within the present limits of this village. For more than half a century James F. Peckham was one of the prominent business men of the village, and served as village trustee for several years. Throughout his long life of eighty years, he lived within sight of his birthplace, and was highly esteemed throughout the community. He died November 15, 1907.





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